

THE JERUSALEM



VOLUME LXV. NUMBER 19482

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1997 • SHVAT 7, 5757 • 6 RAMADAN 1417

Olmert campaign fraud trial begins



TV's 'Bus No. 300' drama starts today

Critics' Choice, Page 11



Zim takes a new direction

Money Magazine

Cinema/TV11 Crossword11 Sports10

Netanyahu, Arafat meet at Erez

Settlers step up lobbying effort

By HERB KEINON

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general granders and a

The settlement council, at an emergency meeting of its plenum last night, stopped short of taking any operative decisions against the government, making do instead with calling on it "not to give up parts of Eretz Yisrael." ...

At a rare and often raucous meeting in Jerusalem of representatives of dozens of settlements; a number of proposals were presented, ranging from mass resignations of settlement heads, to a hunger strike, to building up an alternative right-wing candidate to challenge Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahn in

The only substantive decision made, however, was to have each regional council "adopt a ministra". to lobby against the agreement. Alt ministers were perceled out to the who have come out publicly on the government to reject the against the agreement.

most of those present calling for protest action against the govern-Bretz Visual to the Palesimians." ment, council chairman Pinhas . . After a number of people in the



sel Mayor Rabbi Shumel Lanza, left, and Ariel Mayor Ron Nachman inspect a map of Hebron at last night's meeting of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza.

After two hours of debate, with : not for this purpose that you came .

quickly closed the meeting and started singing "I believe in perfect faith in the coming of the

Kiryat Arba lawyer Elyakim Haetzni, who was among the most

Wallerstein read the following dec- audience shouted that they wanted hard-line of the speakers, saying "The job God gave us is to stand in taken by council director-general uncompromising manner

[against the agreement]. If we give in, there's no one behind us. We must stand in the breach, otherwise all of the settlements will be like

Aharon Domb, who tried to persuade his colleagues to refrain from waging an all-out war against the government.

Continued on Page 5

Hadera woman suspected in murder of abandoned baby

By SUE FISHKOFF

A 31-year-old Hadera woman is being held on suspicion of murdering a newborn baby girl, who died yesterday morning at the city's Hillel Yoffe Hospital after being beaten and left outside for dead on Monday evening.

Hadera police chief Dep.-Cmdr. Allon Amiram said the woman was not cooperating with the investigation. "She won't say anything, even whether or not it's her baby," he said last night. She is to be brought before a Hadera Magistrate's Court judge today, where police will ask for an extension of her remand.

The woman had clearly given birth recently, based on an examination by a gynecologist, he added, but was refusing medical help. She is separated from her husband, with whom she already has a 10-year-old daughter, and is living with her parents in the Neven Haim neighborhood where the badly beaten, bloodied infant

Last night on Channel 2, the husband claimed that the woman was unstable and had thrown the baby ont of the window of her

apartment. Police spent most of Monday night working on the case, and asked local social workers and detectives to visit every home in the neighborhood to try to locate any woman in distress or pregnant. The suspect was then picked

up and interrogated. The medic who was called to take the child to the hospital said the baby had been beaten severely in the head and all over her body, and was completely naked. The medic and a Magen David Adom volunteer covered her with blankets and took her to the hospital.



Police: Terror likely motive in Jerusalem murder

A Jerusalem man was found murdered yesterday in the house be was building in the city's Ramat Sharett neighborhood. He was apparently murdered by a Palestinian day laborer who is believed to have escaped to the territories.

this country, said Yitzhak Kadman, director of the National Council for the Child. Most are babies born with severe mental or physical handicaps, who are left behind in the hospital by panicked parents. "The mother enters the hospital expecting to give birth and take her child home, then feels overwhelmed at the prospect of raising

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a severely handicapped child,"
Kadman explained. Often the parents return to claim their child after a short "cooling-off" period. In some cases, the hospital brings criminal charges against the parents, or simply places the infant with a foster family or institution.

Continued on Page 5

Experts agree that the case is

highly unusual. Just a handful of

infants are abandoned each year in

12:15 p.m.

Police believe the murder of Ya'acov Yamin, of the Gilo neighbothood, was nationalistically motivated, although they have not completely ruled out a criminal motive. His body was discovered by a plumber who arrived at the house. His skull had been crushed by a blunt instrument.

Pluraber Ariel Shusheim said he found the body in the basement of the building, and there were signs of severe blows around the ear, and a great deal of blood. A blood-stained chisel was found near the body.

According to relatives and neighbors. Yamin's regular Palestinian laborer failed to turn up yesterday, so Yamin set out

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early in the morning to one of the points where Palestinian day laborers are picked up in southern Jerusalem and hired one. At 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., he spoke with his family. His body was found at

One neighbor said he saw a Palestinian worker running from the building. A taxi driver told police a young Palestinian stopped his cab and forced him to drive him to the checkpoint near

Bethlehem, where be ran off.

Arye Amit said the chisel was not used to kill Yamin, but rather another tool which was not found at the murder scene. Police drew up a sketch of the suspect based on the neighbor's and taxi driver's descriptions.

One of Yamin's neighbors, Eliezer Schwebber, said Yamin had worked on the house for two years and did most of it himself, only occasionally biring workers.
"He almost finished the building and was unsure whether to rent it Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. out or sell it," be said. (Itim)

Parties hopeful of completing deal

Binyamin Minister and Palestinian Netanyahu Authority leader Yasser Arafat met after midnight last night at the Erez junction, in a bid to conclude the long-awaited Hebron accord and accompanying deal on dates for funire pullbacks

Senior Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas insisted last night that the remaining gaps were small, and was hopeful that a deal would be reached. The two sides set up a spe-cial room to enable them to initial the accord if an agreement was

"We hope there will be a signing tonight. There are still some minor issues which need to be resolved," Abbas told reporters after talks

ended in Jerusalem last night. The chance that we will finish this evening exists but it is not guar-anteed," Netanyahu said yesterday

in Jerusalem. US Consul-General in Jerusalem Edward Abington was also upbeat that an accord was in sight.

"I think there's a very good chance we'll see an agreement tonight. Everything is in good shape," he told reporters after emerging from the talks in Jerusalem.

Among the issues which remained open were the question of extradition and the quota of Palestinian security forces.

Anached to the Hebron accord is a "note for the record," citing each side's obligations. Neurnyahu has taken particular pride in this document, since he says it deals with the issue of "reciprocity," as Palestinian obligations are set forth, and not just Israel's.

However, there is no explicit linkage between Israeli and Palestinian undertakings, nor are there deadlines by which these obligations must be met, leading some Likud members to doubt that the Palestinians will actually do what is written.

The final draft of the document may include a call for Palestinians to "complete" their amending of the 1964 PLO Covenant, strengthen security measures against terrorism. and ensure the PA not act in areas outside its jurisdiction, an apparent reference to Jerusalem.

Israel is expected to be asked to release prisoners, enable the opening of a Palestinian airport in Gaza, and

enable safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza.

The key question of pullbacks is expected to be in separate US letters of assurance to both Israelis and Palestinians.

Officials in Jerusalem made clear last night that they interpreted the Oslo 2 agreement to mean that Israel could unilaterally designate the territories that would be ceded in the three future pullbacks - which will be completed by mid-1998 - and that the scope of the pullbacks was not the subject of negotiation with the Palestinians.

It is precisely this interpretation which has apparently led the US to provide a letter of assurance of its own position to the Palestinians, as well as Israel.

When asked about this at a press conference yesterday. Netanyahu declined to answer and said he would deal with these questions after a deal is reached.

Arafat told a Peace Now delegation last week that he believes the Palestinians will obtain 80 percent of the West Bank by the end of the pullbacks, which are meant to conclude before the negotiations on the final disposition of the territories.

laterally designate the territory it seeks to cede is one that has been backed by Joel Singer, the former Foreign Ministry legal adviser who negotiated Oslo 2.

Moreover, Netanyahu won backing yesterday from Meretz MK and former minister Amnon Rubinstein. who wrote a letter to the premier saying that he does not accept the Arafat position as being consistent with Oslo. (Story, Page 2)

According to this view, while the Oslo 2 agreement says Israel must pull back to settlements and "specified military locations," this should not be interpreted narrowly as constituting only military bases. Rather, this should be interpreted broadly, including control over settlement blocs as occurred during the Gaza-Jericho agreement when Israel obtained control over not just individual settlements, but over the entire Katif bloc in the Gaza Strip Moreover, Israel's right to control borders during the interim period should mean retaining control alongside Israeli borders, apparently referring to the entire Jordan

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families and distribution agents are exempt from participating.

in brief

Bellin, Eitan form agreement on Palestinians

MKs Yossi Beilin (Labor) and Michael Eitan (Likud) met last night for discussions aimed at forming a working paper to present Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and opposition leader Shimon Peres on their points of agreement regarding a permanent settlement with the Palestinians.

The two have been meeting with a number of MKs from both their parties for several weeks to try to see if the two sides can reach a national consensus on final status issues. The talks are loosely based on the so-called Beilin-Ahu Mazeo plan, although Eitan has refused to accept clauses calling for any Palestinian control in Jerusalem or a Palestinian state.

Liat Colling

Moussa: Netanyahu welcome after accord

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said yesterday that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu would be "more than welcome" to visit Egypt and meet with President Hosni Muharak after the Hebron agreement is signed and implemented.

In an interview with Israel Radio's David Ze'ev, Moussa said

that redeployment in Hebron and the further redeployments "will play a positive role in beefing up relations" between Israel and Egypt. Regarding the question of whether peace or war is more likely between Israel and Syria, Moussa said: "Peace is more likely definitely... I know that the Syrians want peace according

Begin to host scientists' gathering

Science Minister Ze'ev Binyamin Begin will today host thousands of scientists in Jerusalem at the beginning of the new scientific research year. President Ezer Weizman will also be present at the event, to be held at the Jerusalem International Coovention Center.

Scientists from a wide variety of fields, including the natural and social sciences, have been invited to the event. Winners of \$50,000 ministry grants will be presented with their awards, which will allow them to prepare evidence that their ideas are economically feasible.

Habad brings more Chernobyl children here

A group of 25 children from the Ukraine, Belarus and western Russia landed at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday as part of Habad's Children of Cheroohyl project. Habad has brought more than I,400 children out of the region that was affected by the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear reactor in Ukraine. The aim is to protect the children from cancers that appear to be widespread in the area.

The children were taken to Kfar Habad, near Tel Aviv, where they will be joined by their parents within two or three years. Jerusalem Post Staff

Chance of Syria war greater now - analyst

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Syria continues, the greater the chances are of war breaking out between the two countries, a leading analyst said yester-

day, adding that Egypt with its strong armed forces may back the Syrians if battles break

But other academics and former IDF officers said they saw little likelihood of a Syrian attack on Israel since its army was becoming steadily obsolete and no match for the growing might of the IDF, which is aiming to have in place anti-missile capability by the year

Nevertheless, Ze'ev Manz, head of the Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, said he believed the Syrians would attack Israel out of political rather than military calculations, "even at the risk of severe military pun-

"I believe that the continuation of the political stalemate, particularly on the Syrian-Israeli tract, raises significantly the likelihood of war in the near and mid-term future," Maoz said, speaking to reporters on the release of the center's 1994-1995 Middle East Military Balance.

According to Maoz, the Syrians The longer the freeze in the believed they had been on the Heights from the previous government and felt "cheated" by the deadlocked talks under Prime

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's govern-He said that even if

the Syrians did not initiate direct hostilities, an arms race was sure to resume in the Middle East. "The qualitative military halance favors

Israel. The future is extremely hleak from the Syrian perspec-Ze'ev Maoz tive," Maoz said, "since (AP) Israel is developing an

answer to the Syrian missile threat." "If the Syrians feel that this missile option might not be available five years from now then their tendency to use them now would be

increased," Maoz said. Egypt on the other hand, according to the balance, has the most formidable armed forces in the Middle East with a modern,

Western air force and strong navy. Maoz also said that Egypt, while focusing its efforts to prevent an escalation of tensions between Israel and Syria, would not likely sit idle if a war broke out.

Israel slams S.Africa-Syria arms deal

PRETORIA (Reuter) - South Africa's proposed sale of weaponry to Syria comes at a bad time for the Middle East peace process and will upset the military balance if it goes ahead, Israel's ambassador to South Africa said yesterday.

Victor Harel said Israel had not been consulted about the plan to

sell tank-gun targeting equipment to the Syrians, which has provoked an unusually strong warning from the United States, including a threat to cut off US aid to South Africa.

President Nelson Mandela's ruling African National Congress said that in the past South Africa favored Israel and discriminated against

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Dr. Zvi Gastwirt on the death of his mother

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Ministers expect vote today

By SARAH HONIG, DAVID RUDGE and LIAT COLLINS

Cabinet ministers were sure last night that they would today be asked to vote on an agreement with Yasser Arafat. As things stood yesterday it was still nine ministers for, seven against and two undecided - and this despite Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's ongoing efforts to

increase his support.

Netanyahu met with Tsomet's Rafael Eizan and with the National Religious Party ministers yesterday in an attempt to change their minds, or at least to soften their opposition to the deal. However, the ministers stuck to their guns.

The undecideds were the Likud's Moshe Katsav and Yisrael Ba'aliya's Natan Sharansky. The votes Netanyahu can count

on are his own, David Levy (Gesher), Yitzhak Mordechai (Likud), Dan Meridor (Likud),

Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud), Yehoshua Matza (Likud), Avigdor Kahalani (Third Way), Eli Suissa (Shas) and Eli Yishai (Shas). The opponents are Ze'ev Binyamin Begin (Likud), Ariel Sharon (Likud). Zevulum Hammer (NRP), Yitzhak Levy (NRP), Rafael Eitan (Tsomet), Limor Livnat (Likud) and Yuli Edelstein (Yisrael

Ba'aliya). Netanyahu promised that as soon as the agreements are final-ized they would be put before the ministers. The prime minister is sure this would drive home the point that the agreement is not as bad as the opponents claim it is. However, what he told the NRP

ministers and Eitan did not cause them to rethink. "I heard nothing which changes anything," Eitan said. "This is still a very dangerous deal to the Jews of Hebron, to the settlers and settlement endeavor, to Israelis in the heartland and to the State of Israel. We are conferring advantages on those who still seek to destroy us."

Hammer said he "heard nothing which changes our position. We continue to remain totally opposed to this agreement. However, I reject calls hy some amongst us,"
notably NRP MK Hanan Porat, "to
leave the coalidon and hring dowo
the government. We have just
come through elections and this is the best government we can hope for. The NRP must remain in the coalition, even though we don't like the agreement, in order to exert influence on what will come next and most of all the final status

MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher) is demanding a plebiscite oo the Hebron agreement. Kleiner yesterday sent a letter to all coalition faction chairmen to support his call. He criticized Netanyahu for treating the delay in the third redeployment as an achievement "It's like a man condemned to death who gives up on the option of escape in return for delaying the execution by a few months," he

Kleiner said that since there was a consensus on holding a public referendum on any possible concession since the Golan Heights, one should be held for Judea and Samaria which are "not only strategically important, but also the inheritance of our forefathers."

MK Taurist Kharib (Taurana)

MK Tawfik Khatib (Democratic Arab Party) wrote a letter to the premier yesterday which said: "I have heard of the demand by the Israeli Government that Palestinian murderers and attackers be extradited to Israel, a position which seems logical to me. However, at the same time I would like to request – according to the principle of reciprocity – that the Israeli government hand over

Palestinian population, and as a first step I think Noam Friedman be the first to be handed over." Still, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Israel has reached the limits of its flexibility in negotiations with the Palestinians.

Jewish murderers and attackers

who carried out attacks on the

Mordechai called Palestinians to sign the agree on Hebron and move forward. "They are not doing anyone any good by not signing the accord," he said. "The Palestmans need to be told that this is the line of our maximum flexibility."

Batsheva Tsur adds In an attempt to get a first hand impression of the problems facing the residents of Hebron, Jews and Arabs, alike, some 200 students from the country's institutes of higher learning were to go to Hebron late last night.

"The students represent the entire spectrum of political life on the campuses - religious and secular, Jews and Arabs – and we plan to have a free discussion with rep-resentatives of the settlers and the Arab population," said Orr Tamir, spokesperson for the National Union of Israeli Students, which initiated the tour. "Almost half of the students are from Bar-Ilan University, religious and non-reli-gious," she said.

Rubinstein: Arafat wrong on pullbacks

By EVELYN GORDON

The further redeployments called for in the Oslo Accords do not require the government to withdraw from most of Judea and Samaria, contrary to Palestinian Anthority Chairman Yasser Arafat's position, Meretz MK and law professor Ammon Rubinstein said in a letter to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu last week.

This interpretation of the Oslo Accords, which in my opinion is completely mistaken, works against both Israel and the peace process, because it imposes an impossible dilemma on the government: Either it must openly discard s central clause of the Oslo Accords, or it must agree to forfeit all of Israel's negotiating cards in the final status talks," Rubinstein

Rubiostein based his interpretation on chapter 17, paragraph 3 of the Oslo 2 agreement. This clause says the PA will control all of that will be negotiated in the permanent status negotiations." It then lists those issues: Jerusalem, the settlements, "specified mili-tary locations" and borders.

Rubinstein said, there is no reason to give a narrow interpretation to the phrase "specified military locations." The previous government interpreted this phrase "flexibly and broadly," he said.

However, he continued, the real key is the word "borders."

"The Palestinian side will certainly claim that the intent was only for Israeli control over border crossings," he wrote. "But the agreement says 'borders' and not border crossings.' Since the final border is to be determined in the permanent status negotiations, and since the issue of borders was explicitly mentioned in the list of explicitly mentioned in the list of lexceptions in connection with the obligation for [further] with the obligation for [further] with-drawals during the interim period, there is in my opinion no basis to the claim that the agreement obligates Israel to withdraw from all (or almost all) of the territories as a result of the redeployments."

If there is a disagreement as to where the final border should be in the final settlement, Israel would not be required to withdraw from that area during the interim period.



Old and new fences

Naim Zalloun, a Palestinian who lives near Kiryat Arba, moves an old wire fence off his land yesterday after settlers discarded it to make way for a new security fence.

PA officials: Council backs Arafat on Hebron deal

By LAMIA LAHOUD

Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat has the backing of his cahinet and most of the Palestinian council for the Hebron agreement and the compromise date for the completion of further

1998, PA officials said. PA officials are satisfied with the Hebron agreement, which some said is better than the original

redeployments that is set for mid-

"We have worked out a detailed agreement on the guidelines of the original Oslo accords. It creates the best possible security for both Palestinians and Israelis in Hehron," said Gen. Abdel Razak

Mordechai visited IDF troops in

the security zone yesterday as

fighting continued in south

lost a foot in a roadside bomb hlast in the Jezzine enclave, north of the

security zone, controlled by troops

loyal to SLA commander Gen.

SLA posts in the northeastern sec-

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rolar: Club will talks place today at 1.00 p.m. at the YMCA, King Oavid Street, Yoram Cohen will speak on; Jewish Communities in the CIS

Honorary Life Memberships of World WIZO have been granted to former Charpersons of the World WIZO Executive Aya Dinstein and

Ruth Isakson. The presentations were made at WIZO's Bett Heuss on Monday 73,1.97 in the course of a limitheon held there for the leaders of WIZO federations from around the world now in Israel. To effend the plemary sessions of the World WIZO Exerutive

Earlier in the morning, two

A South Lebanese Army soldier

Lebanon.

Antoine Lahad

al-Yahiya. one of the negotiators and co-chairman of the joint security committee.

Another PA official explained aspects that made the new agreement better. "Under the old agreement we were allowed only to carry rifles inside police stations to protect them. Now we have a special police force armed with rifles which can carry out special operations and arrests in our areas of Hehron.

Al-Yahiya said it may seem that the PA made lots of concessions, but in fact it was a matter of reaching a better understanding between both sides. He said the agreement reached was good and satisfied hoth sides' security

Mordechai visits troubled security zone

range mortar fire. There were no

casualties or damage in the

attacks, to which IDF and SLA

gunners responded by shelling

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Defense Minister Yitzhak tor of the zone came under long

Marwan Barghouteh, a leading Fatah activist from Ramallah and a member of the Palestinian council. said the Palestinians obtained the most important thing, namely a US-hacked commitment for further redeployments and an acceptable date for the end of the IDF pullback from most of the territories, except settlements and military installations.

He said the Palestinians had finally gotten the US directly involved in the negotiations and were satisfied with the US letter of guarantees. He said they welcomed the Arab involvement, especially that of King Hussein, and hoped that the Arabs will continue to pressure Israel to implement the agreement.

suspected Hizbullah targets north

Mordechai visited the Taibeh

position, in the zone's eastern sec-

of the zone.

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The most important thing for the Palestinian people is the fur-ther redeployment," Barghouteh

Bot al-Yahiya said there was nothing in the Oslo agreement committing Israel to withdraw from specific areas at specific times. He said it was up to the Israelis to decide which areas to hand over to the PA during the three phases of further redeploy-

The Oslo accord, he said, only specifies that hy the end of further redeployments, Israel should have handed over all the territories to the PA except settlements and specified military locations.



Knesset Committee for Restoration of Jewish Property The Speaker of the Knesset has appointed a special committee

to address the subject of restoration of Jewish property confiscated from its owners during the Holocaust. The committee appeals to all those with an interest in the subject of "lost" Swiss bank accounts, or any other property, to

Please forward photocopies of documents (if you have). All information will be checked and, if relevant, you will be invited to submit further information. Inquiries should be sent to Avraham Hirshenson MK, Chairman of the Committee for Restoration of Jewish Property, the Knesset, Jerusalem 91950 (Tel. 02-675-4185).

> Avraham Hirshenson MK. Committee Chairman

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Policewomen lead away a Beduin girl yesterday after her family refused to obey an order evicting them to make way for the expansion of Ma'aleh Adumim.

Beduin family evicted from Ma'aleh Adumim

By JON IMMANUEL

Almost five months after the High Court permitted the removal of Beduin from land slated for settlement expansion, bulldozers yesterday knocked down three huts and police transferred the family which lived in them to a new site, two kilo-

meters away. Last May the High Court dismissed a final peticion by the Jahalin tribe to be allowed to stay on land they settled in the 1950s, and their removal was slated to begin August

Talks began for their orderly removal, but the whole issue, which had aroused the ire of the Palestinian Authority, was post-poned following the Western Wall Tunnel crisis at the end of September.

The PA demanded that the Jahalin stay put, claiming that Israel had oo

right to expand settlements at the expense of Palestinians. Moreover, the land to which the Beduin were being transferred was private Palestinian property belonging to families in Abu Dis.

Yesterday morning, in a first tentative move, police came in and emptied the huts of the Abu Ghabiyeh family, carefully placing small items of jewelry in cardy boxes which they then returned to

their owners after the demolition. Eight family members voluntarily moved to the new site; two were forced to leave by police.

The decision to begin the evacuation of up to 20 families was taken three days ago, said civil administraoon spokesman Peter Lerner. No reason was given for the timing, but it was thought to be linked to the imminence of a Hebron agreement and a belief that the PA would not want to create a new crisis when the

The Jahalin moved into Jordan after being pushed out of the Negev in 1953 and settled in the Judean desert near Jerusalem, only to find themselves back under Israeli rule in 1967, in a priority area for Jewish

Ma'aleh Adumim quickly expanded in the 1980s, and is now the largest settlement in the West Bank and has achieved municipal

Several of the Jahalin's camps, dotted around the neighboring hills, have been enclosed by the expanding town of 20,000 Jews. Talks on relocating them have been going on

Although some 100 Jahalin families already live at the new site near Kidar, they have no permanent right of residence, meaning they could be moved again if the land comes under Palestinian Authority.

Coalition MKs want Tarif removed as head of Interior Committee

By LIAT COLLINS

Coalition MKs continue to call for the removal of Salah Tarif (Labor) from the chair of the Knesset Interior

Tarif, who recently angered coalition MKs with an unscheduled meeting between the committee and Yasser Arafat in Bethlehem, yester-day tried to get a meeting with the Palestinian Authority's Nabil Shaath

Most coalition committee members boycotted the visit saying Tarif had exceeded his jurisdiction, although Emanuel Zissman (Third Way) and Michael Nudelman (Yisrael Ba'aliya) participated MKs. Ze'ev Boim (Likud), Benny Elon (Moledet), Avraham Stem (NRP) and David Azulai (Shas) stayed " aways with higher of table to the

The seven Miks on the imp tions of the checks: and controls at the Erez crossing, but of the Kami cross

the visit was marked by a series of mishaps. First, there was a delay crossing Erez stemming from problems on the Palestinian side. When they finally crossed, the MKs discovered that Shaafin and the head of Palestinian security Mohammed Dahlan had called off the meeting with the Israeli parliamentarians, citing unscheduled discussions with

The MKs were also stood up by the heads of Jewish settlements in Gaza. Tarif claimed that Flon had achieved a fait accompli by telling them the visit had been canceled, and launched a vocal attack on the absent MKs.

It's a shame and an embarrassment. It's disgusting and borders on racism. Tarif funned. I see no rea-son for such an important four to be powerfied by MKs. We're talking. about the important matter of cooperation with the Palestinians."

. The visit was aborted after a tour

Matza warns new Likud protest group against using violence

By SARAH HONIG

Likud secretariat chairman Health Minister Yehoshna Matza yesterday warned a grouping called Otzma LaLikud not to resort to violence or threats of violence, and to keep whatever complaints they have strictly on an ideological basis. The group, which until yesterday

morning was anonymous, put up placards, particularly to the Jerusalem area attacking Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, also of the Likud. Playing on the Hebrew meaning of the name Yitzhak (he will laugh), their signs read: "Yitzhak Mordechai, but the nation weeps." The placards were signed "Otzma LaLikud" - power to the Likud

The group emerged from anonymity yesterday when it sent form letters to all Likud central committee members. Until then no one knew the identity of those behind Otzma LaLikud. In the letters, they are identified as David Rechter, Avi Grubber and Daniel Griessero, the chairman, directorgeneral and spokesman of the

They say they have set up an internet site and will next seek to put internet site and will next seek to put

butions to form a non-party associa-tion like Dor Shalem on the left .

The letter claims that 40-Liknd branch chiefs belong to the group, but not one is named.

The aim, says the letter, is to "restore ideology to the Likud after the leadership turned its back on the voters and started down the route of the previous government and is implementing the Peres-Beilin formula for the establishment of a Palestinian state."

Matza said he doesn't know the. group and has not heard of it, "but the very fact that it functioned anonymously indicates its weakness. "Anyone who calls for the con-

vening of the central committee to deliberate on the fateful developments of recent days is right because our central committee has been out of action for too long, unlike the party executive bureau. We need ideological discussion. However, anyone who engages in threats and/or violence will not be suffered to the Likud movement and I also caution these people, whoever they are, not to start collecting money because they will violate political funding laws and will get them-selves into trouble," he said.

Local psoriasis drug applies for FDA testing

By JUDY STEGEL

A California company that purchased the rights for a psoriasis drug developed by Hebrew University researchers has applied to the US Food and Drug Administration for permission to conduct clinical trials. The HU research team that developed a new approach to the treatment of psoriasis, based on the molecular structure of the skin disease, is headed by biochemistry Prof. Alexander Levitzki, Prof. Hanna Ben-Bassat, director of experimental surgery at the HU-Hadassah medical school, and Dr. Aviv Gazit of the organic and biological chem-

istry department. The compounds they developed ain at halting the developing of psoriasis, a circonic condition of apparently generic origin that causes red, itchy parches on the skin. It

PEKING

PASHION ABLE

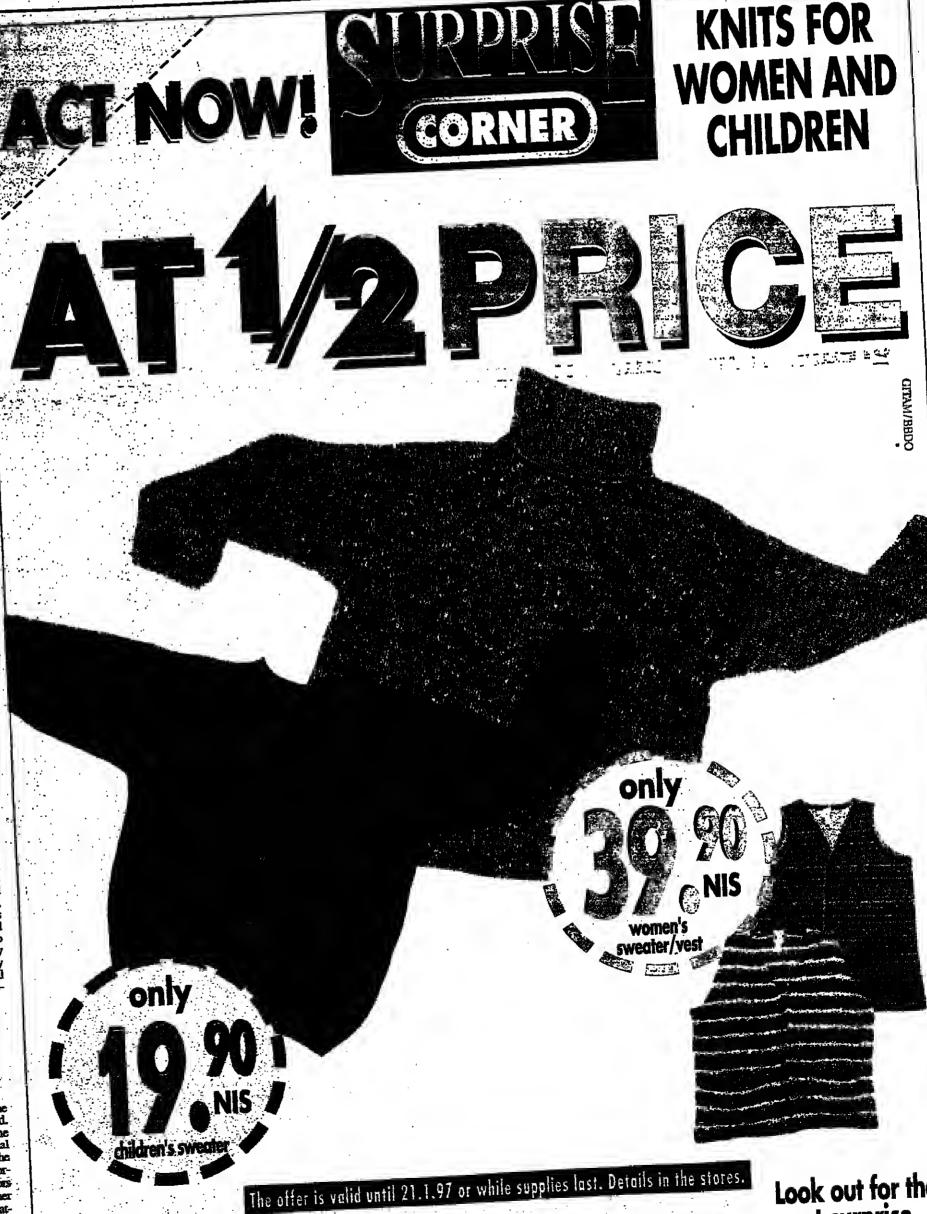
IN RESTAURANT

affects about three percent of the population and cannot be prevented. Previous research showed the decisive role of the epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptorin the control of skin growth. Under normal conditions, skin growth factors are secreted to a controlled manner among the skin cells, but in psoriatic cells, the growth factors are constantly present at higher concentrations to produced uncontrolled

The HU researchers found they could slow down the growth of psorianc cells by blocking the EGF

The Sugen company of Redwood City, California purchased the rights from the HU's research and development arm, Yissum, and filed an application with the FDA for starting clinical trials at New York's Mt.

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in brief

MKs protect their vital ability to keep talking

Something got up MKs' noses yesterday. Ear, Nose and Throat specialists from Bikur Holim Hospital visited to examine Knesset members and employees at the initiative of Knesset physician Dr. Yitzhak Lipschitz. The 42 MKs who were examined expressed the most interest in how to protect their vocal chords, which get plenty of use. The medical staff, led by Dr. Elimelech Deutsch, also stressed the importance of

Zucker proposes change in film censor's role

MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) submitted a bill yesterday propos-ing that the Film Censorship Board be turned into a rating board instead. Under the bill, the board, which was founded in the British Mandate period, would rate movies according to suitability for different age groups, rather than censoring or banning them. He called censorship a violation of freedom of

Nigeria repatriates foreign workers

Nigeria agreed yesterday to fly home 13 illegal workers, after the government threatened to bar Nigerian Christian pilgrims from entering, the Interior Ministry said.

The threat came after the government was unable for months to deport the illegal Nigerian workers, because there are no direct flights between the two countries and European countries refused to allow them transit rights.

The Interior Ministry proposed that the illegal workers be flown back on special direct flights bringing pilgrims. When Nigeria refused, Interior Minister Eli Suissa said he would deny visas to the pilgrims. An estimated 1,000 Nigerian pilgrims are expected to visit in the next month.

Knesset committee calls for mixed IDF courses

Women officer cadets in the border police should be allowed to train in the male officers training school (Bahad 1) along with other combat soldiers and not in the all-women training school (Bahad 12), the Knesset Committee on the Status of

Women said yesterday. The committee recommended the IDF carry out a pilot program of at least three courses in which women cadets would train alongside male cadets. Naomi Chazan (Meretz) said the combined program is in keeping with the "positive trend" in the IDF to open more jobs to women. Liat Collins

Hundreds of antisemitic sites spring up on the Internet

Hundreds of Internet sites have been set and ways to fight against it.

"We have to think of ways that we can up to spread antisemitic and racist material, a large part of it on Holocaust denial and the rest on racist incitement against Jews and other minorities, according to the Forum for

Combatting Antisemitism. These site have links to other such sites,

the forum added. The forum, headed by cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, met at the Prime Minister's Office for a session yesterday. It includes representatives from research institutions which study antisemitism around the world

cooperate with various bodies and governments around the world to fight against the spread of hatred on the Internet," Naveh said. Naveb suggested that Israel draw up an international covenant, with UN backing. setting restrictions on the spread of racist material on the Internet.

This is not only an Israeli problem and a Jewisb problem, but a worldwide problem."

Among those who attended yesterday's ses-

University and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, two groups here which monitor antisemitism.

Efraim Zuroff, of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem, noted that there are "no international laws putting limitations on Internet material." The Internet has become "a giant supermarket in which there is a lot of garbage," he said.

Zuroff noted a phenomenon which is occurring mostly in the United States m . which professors who are Holocaust-deniers have opened personal antisemitic pages

He said that the center had been dedicating much efforts in recent years to tracking antisemitic material on the Internet.

Zuroff said the best way to combat the problem would be to get the suppliers of internet services to set standards for eliminating racist and antisemitic material.

Roni Shtauber, of the Tel Aviv University center, said the main source of the antisemitic sites is the US, but their numbers are rising in Europe, especially in Germany and

Christian clergy left in visa limbo

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Hundreds of Christian clergy and church workers in Bethlehem are in a legal state of limbo with no visas for either the Palestinian Authority or Israel, Christian sources said recently.

In Israel and those parts of the territories under Israeli control, elergy and eburch workers receive special visas from the Interior Ministry. According to the agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the Authority must now provide permission for these people to live and work in areas under their

However, the PA has until now been unable to undertake the

jurisdiction.

According to an informal compromise, the Interior Ministry agreed to provide visas through the end of 1996, but now it has stopped doing so and the PA bas vet to issue such visas on its own.



On the right track

Women from Hadassah and other women's organizations ride a special train from Haifa down the coast yesterday in support of rail travel as a way to reduce traffic accidents and pollution. Meanwhile, special stamp albums with the theme of road safety have been designed by the Philatelic Services and purchased by education departments in various parts of the country. The Postal Authority said yesterday that teaching youngsters using stamps can gradually improve the situation. (Text Indy Siegel, Photo: Avi Hayoun)

Government hospital workers shut down services today

during the three-hour strike; sterile laundry will not be supplied; radiology institutes will close; and no cleaning will be done. In addition, technical services and medical registration will not be

Between 8 and 11 a.m. today, services at Sheba (in Tel Hashomer), Rambam (Haifa), Hillel Yoffe (Hadera), Barzilai (Ashkelon), Assaf Harofeh (Tzrifin) and Wolfson (Holon) Hospitals will be carried out in the six hospitals. . . . Union chief Batya Levy announced the sanctions yesterday without informing the Health Some 9,000 administrative and maintenance Ministry. If the union's demands are not met, the ing over "broken promises" by the Finance

No comment was available yesterday from the Ministry to grant duty allowances to a number of Finance Ministry spokeswoman. The Health employees whose names were agreed upon in a special inter-ministry committee. - Ministry spokesman said he hoped the Tree As a result, outpatient clinics will be shut down would meet its commitments to the union. Ministry spokesman said he hoped the Treasury

Hanegbi refuses to file charges against judge over haredim slur

The Knesset Law Committee and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi faced off yesterday over wbether disciplinary charges should be filed against a Beersheba judge who made

Judge Oded Alyagon, president of the Beersheba Magistrate's Court, made the remarks at a farewell party for a retiring judge at the end of August.

"We have become a target for parasites to whom ideas such as the rule of law are utterly alien," Alyagon was quoted in the press as having said. These people, who have never contributed a jot to the country, have set themselves

legal system, or intimidating it, so that they can continue to milk the state's resources without distur-

Hanegbi told the committee he considered Alyagon's statements very grave, especially as they anger but were part of a printed speech he had prepared in advance. However, he said, he did not think disciplinary charges were the proper response. Supreme Court President Aharon Barak had reprimanded Alyagon,

bance.

he said, and that was sufficient. Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) disagreed. Despite Hanegbi's objections, he insisted on a vote on whether the committee should rec-

the goal of seizing control of the momend Haneghi file charges.

filing charges against the judge for this grave act," Yahalom said. "I suggest that the committee vote on the matter." "I ask you not to do this,"

Hanegbi said. "It is not proper for mend trying people without hearing what they have to say. Such a thing has never happened in this committee before."

Yahalom insisted on a vote. Alyagon had been invited, he said, and it was not the committee's problem that he chose not to appear. The committee voted 6-1 to rec-

ommend Hanegbi file charges, in a straight party-line vote. However, Hanegbi promptly announced he would ignore the committee's rec-

Yona Yahay (Labor), who cast the only vote against, said be agreed that Alyagon's statements were very grave, but said they had

to be seen in the context of what was happening at the time. "[These remarks] weren't made ground of demonstrations against the Supreme Court and attacks against Justice Barak which put him in need of a bodyguard," he said, adding that he therefore felt Barak's reprimand was sufficient.

Alex Lubotsky (Third Way) said remarks such as Alyagon's merely serve to justify the haredim's belief that the judicial system is prejudiced against them. Therefore disciplinary charges would be appropriate, he said.

&-Nazis

felled from Pages 1

Act of the Control

Panel urges medical tests for foreign workers

By LIAT COLLINS

seriously disrupted.

Foreign workers should undergo medical tests within three months of their arrival. Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee chairman Maxim Levy (Gesher) said Levy suggested the workers

undergo tests to insure that documents they bring with them aren't faked. The Health Ministry would determine what tests are required.

"The person who first decided to bring foreign workers here regular permits required by plan-

would not bave made the decision had he known the reality today," Levy said. "The problem of foreign workers is difficult both for the workers themselves and for the Israeli economy. If we don't put things in order, foreign workers will fill jobs in all branches of the economy up to

the military." The committee warned of the dangers at building sites where workers live in trailers. Levy said the trailer homes must have all the

ning and construction law and he called on Interior Minister Eli Suissa to ensure checks were carried out at all such sites.

Police representative deputy Commander Monique Goldwasser told the committee a special unit established to deal with quick deportations would start working within the next two weeks.

Levy said the committee would focus future discussions on determining reasonable conditions for deportees in bostels, instead of

Poraz campaigns for animal ambulance

By LIAT COLLINS

MK Avraham Poraz (Meretz-Shinui) is fighting the govern-ment's opposition to a bill be submitted calling for animal ambulances to be exempt from import duty, as are ambulances for

Poraz's bill follows the still unresolved case of an animal ambulance donated by Chai

(Concern for Helping Animals in Israel) to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Tiberias. The ambulance was bought at a cost of \$26,000, raised by Chai and other groups in the US. But the Customs Authority is demanding \$40,000 in import duty to allow it in the country.

Chai representatives said they were led to believe the donated ambulance would be exempt from

taxes, like ambulances donated to Magen David Adom. The vehicle is fully equipped to handle bumans as well as animals to enable it to meet the definition of ' an ambulance. It is meant to serve the entire northern area, including

the Golan, and is adapted to serve in difficult terrain. It is also equipped with a tow hook to transport a horse box, because of the problem of mjured and stray donkeys found in the north.

Animal welfare groups and MKs, including Poraz, bave unsuccessfully lobbied the authorities for more than a year to allow the animal ambulance to be brought into the country free of import duty. Chai last year held import duty. Chai last year held import duty. demonstrations in the US which attracted senior members of the Jewish community and Congressmen.

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US senators pleased with Arrow project

By STEVE RODAN

US senators touring Israel
Aircraft Industries said yesterday
they are pleased with the progress
of the US-Israel Arrow anti-missile defense program.

"I am happy to hear something positive on the progress of the Arrow program," said Sen. Ted Stevens, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The senators visited IAI's plant, where the Arrow system is being developed. Stevens recalled the debates during the early years of the project, which was launched in the late 1980s

"Now it's good to see that there is joint interest between the US and Israel in the field of surface. to-surface missile interception,"

he said. "This is a shared goal of both countries and I wish you great

The senator said he was particularly pleased that the Arrow program is being administered within its budget.
So far, the project has cost 5700 million, with Israel's share being

\$250 million.

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site Rival calls to impeach Yeltsin

MOSCOW (AP) — A leading Communist urged parliament to impeach the ailing Boris Yelisin, The state of the s but the president's doctors said he was recovering well from pneu-monia and was "significantly bet-100 m

ter" yesterday.
Lawmakers' previous attempts
to oust Yeltsin have failed and the latest move appeared to have little support. In any case, the strong-willed president would be eertain to resist any moves agaiost him by parliament's Communist-dominated lower

A draft resolution, proposed by Communist lawmaker Viktor llyukhin, calls on Duma members to regard the powers of the president as prematurely terminated due to his consistent inability to perform his duties for health rea-

The proposal says the Federation Council, parliament's upper house, should "confirm the Duma decision and set a date for presidential elections."

Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov said the resolution has been submitted to the chamber's legal section for review and a parliamentary debate on impeachment could take place in about a

He acknowledged that any impeachment attempt would be a long, combersome process: Constitutional clauses about dismissiog a president "are very vaguely written," Seleznyov

Alexander Kotenkov, Yeltsin's envoy to the Duma, said the draft resolution was "legally groundless" and he called it an attempt to aggravate the political situation in the country."

Yeltsin, meanwhile, remained hospitalized for a seventh day yesterday at the Central Clinical Hospital outside Moscow, but doctors who examined him in the evening found him "significantly better," the Kremlin said.

"His physical activity has increased and only some occa-. sional wheezing sounds in his lungs remain," the presidential press service added.

Yeltsin was able to start holding working meetings yesterday, and he met for 40 minutes with his chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais. Chubais was believed to be the president's first visitor, other than his family, since he was hospitalized Jan. 8 with double pneumo-

Yeltsin also spent two hours yesterday doing paperwork in his hospital suite, his press service

Stasi kept secret files on ex-Nazis

BERLIN (AP) - Former East German officials kept secret files identifying ex-Nazis living abroad so they could press them into service as spies, Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal said in an interview published yesterday.

East Germany "withheld essen-

tial information so that hundreds of Nazi criminals would remain unpunished," Wiesenthal told the

weekly magazine Super Illu. Wiesenthal said East German authorities sought both to have West Germany branded the only Nazi state" and to gain leverage over ex-Nazis living abroad who might be used as spies.

BABY

Continued from Page 1 More rare are cases of young, unwed mothers who give birth in secret and abandon the child in the street, or on a hospital

"This is a very unusual case,"
Kadman said, "The mother was
not young, and she was (separat-

ed], not single."

Overall, the number of abandoned children in general, and infants in specific, has been on a steady decline for years. Kadman says official figures show eight infants and children were abandoned in 1995 - the last year for which records are available - in contrast to 72 abandonments in

"Girls are more sophisticated today," said Miriam Faher, head of child protection officers at the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry. Greater knowledge of birth control means fewer young girls are getting pregnant unintentionally, she said, and those who do get pregrant are more likely to turn to hospital abortion committees. Also, more single reenagers are

deciding to keep their babies. The phenomenon of infant abandonment is very, very rare today." she said. Hospitals now offer programs to help parents of severely handicapped newborns,

such as Down Syndrome babies. The infant, which weighed 2.9 kilos and had a body temperature of just 28° C when she was admitted to Hillel Yoffe in critical condition, died yesterday at 9 a.m.

Milosevic foes declared winners

By DUSAN STOJANOVIC

BELGRADE (AP) - After eight weeks of opposition protest against Slobodan Milosevic, election commissions in Scrbia's two biggest cities - Belgrade and Nis - declared the opposition victors yes-

The Serbian president is believed to con-trol both commissions. Yesterday's rulings suggested he was bowing to domestic and international pressure to concede the opposition wins in the Nov. 17 municipal vote. Annulment of those wins by Milosevic courts sparked the protests.

Milosevic's Socialists have 48 hours to

appeal the commission rulings, and the

opposition was cantious.

"I believe nothing," said oppositioo leader Zoran Djindjic, who would become

Belgrade's mayor if the results become official. This is another attempt to buy time. We will continue our protests."

Djindjic said the opposition wanted to see all of its election victories recognized, and its members actually taking power. "Belgrade is only a part of the whole package," he said. "We don't trust this

regime until our deputies constitute the

city council." International mediators have backed the opposition elaim that it won Belgrade, Nis and 12 other large Serbian mwns.

The Belgrade decision was announced by the head of the city's election commission, Radomir Lazarevic. Hours later, the local electoral commission in Nis, Serbia's second largest city, also conceded the defeat of Milosevic's party there, the opposition announced.

The amouncements, though, were not

followed by any immediate movement by the local council representatives to vacate their offices.

They came a day after a half-million people jammed Belgrade's streets for a protest and celebration of New Year's Eve according to the old Orthodox calendar.

The Belgrade ruling not only included district councils within Belgrade that Milosevic already had given up, but the main eity council that controls the entire Serbian capital.

Lazarevic said that the opposition coalition Zajedno, or Together, would have at least 60 seats of the 110 seats in the main city council. Milosevic's leftist coalition would have only 23 seats, with the remainder going to other parties.

The results were identical to those originally announced by the Belgrade com-

Last week, Serbian courts had ruled the opposition woo Nis, but the city's electoral commission resisted the order.

The opposition said the Nis commission had declared the opposition won 41 seats on the 70-seat Nis City Council. Twentyeight went to Milosevic's neo-Communists while ultranationalist Radicals had one.

The announcements were unexpected. Independent media earlier yesterday had predicted Milosevie was ready to cave in to demands in recognize the opposition wins in 13 other towns and cities, but oot

Vuk Draskovie, Djindjic's partner as leader of the opposition, said that the move "could mean that the Serbian governmeot made a step toward sanity."

The independent Dnevni Telegraf daily said Milosevic hoped to lessen international pressure by conceding defeats in

less important communities. This would make it easier for him to use force against the demonstrators in the capital, it said.

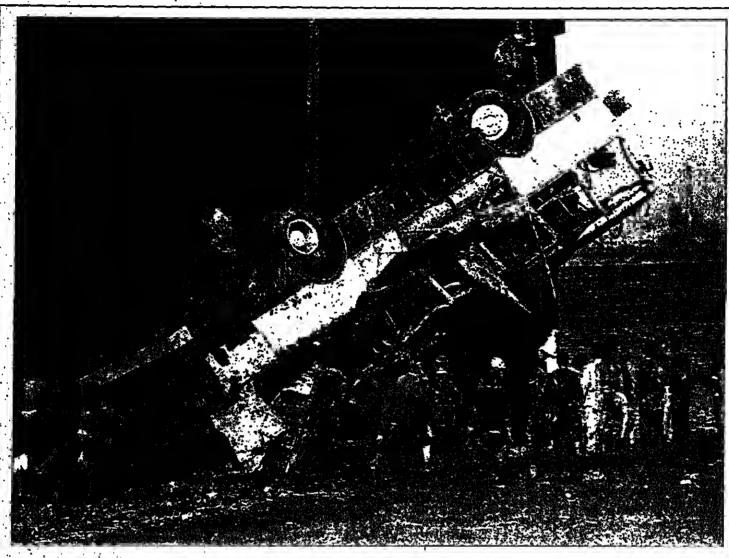
But the long struggle with the opposition has exposed deep splits between moderates and hard-liners in the Socialist Party. Despite relentless pressure at home and abroad, Milosevic had refused anything more than minimal concessions.

Lazarevie said the results would be official only after the 48-hour appeal period. There was oo indication immediately whether Milosevic's Socialists would

The rulings could end the nearly two months of daily street protests - the most serious challenge to Milosevic in his nine

years in power. They could also end a near state monop-

oly on the media by giving the opposition some of the state-run news outlets.



Subage workers work around a bus which dove into the Nile yesterday, killing at least 39.

39 die as bus plunges into Nile

CAIRO (AP) ~ Hafsa Abdel-Wahab was going to a college exam yesterday when the hus she was on suddenly veered, tore through a bridge's metal railing and plunged into the River Nile, killing at least 39

passengers. "It felt like the bus went over a big bump and then it landed oo its back in the mud," the 20year-old woman said from a hospital bed where she was examined for back injuries. Everyone was screaming and panicking."
At the el-Sahel bridge in

oorthern Cairo, rescue teams pulled out bodies suhmerged in the mud near the river's edge where the red and white hus landed.

A pool of blood - which dripped from the hus - was visible in the water as workers used a crane to lift the upsidedown vehicle back onto the bridge 35 meters above.

At least 39 people were killed, and 29 survivors were hospitalized. Some passengers also walked away from the accideot.

There was no immediate, official explanation for the accident. Witnesses said the bus driver was speeding and veered across the road divider

into the opposite lane. Egypt's Middle East News Agency quoted passengers as saying the driver may have suffered a heart attack.

"The driver fell on the steeriog wheel ... and suffered a sudden bout of vomiting and lost control," the agency quoted one unidentified passenger as saying. The body of the driver, Mohammed Kamal Abtel-Wahab, was among those recovered from the rivet.

Prime Minister Kamal Ganzoury went to the scene and praised the speed with which rescuers got to the bridge, which is about 4 km north of the city's center. "If the rescue operation was oot so quick, those rescued alive would have been dead," he

Interior Minister Hassan Alfy said the sharp drop from the bridge and the mud that oozed into the overcrowded bus caused the high oumber of casualties.

Several passers-by who helped to the rescue expressed despair at being onable to pull more survivors from the mud.

Major rushes for survival vote

LONDON (AP) - Praying for a mass change of heart by the electorate, or perhaps just pro-longing the agony, Prime Minister John Major is using every trick in the book to hang on to power for the last few months of his five-year term.

. That the battle requires physical stamina and good poker nerves, is clear. Yesterday, Major cut short a visit to Pakistan, flying home to Parliament for a midnight vote on the budget. A defeat on this, or any other bill, would almost certainly lead to a vote of confidence. And if Major lost that, the government would

"Parliament is a hard taskmaster ... I dare not fail to be back in time to vote in London this evening," the Conservative Party leader explained to businessmen before leaving Lahore. What is less clear is why Major, with no overall majority in Parliament, appears so keeo to stay until the May 1 deadline for national

Under the British parliamentary system, an election can be held any time within a govern-

ment's five-year term. The government can choose an earlier date. or have one forced oo it by losing a confidence vote in the House of Commons.

After nearly three years of record unpopularity and with bookmakers making the left-ofcenter Labor Party 3-1 favorite to win, the options for the Conservatives are narrowing. All look tough.

Barring a confidence vote, the three most likely election dates are March 20, April 10 or the May 1 deadline.

Years of defeats and defections finally cost Major his parliamentary majority last month. He is now two short of a majority in the 651member Commons and dependent on support from nine Northern Ireland Protestants.

Every vote, big or small, is a test of survival. Shortly before Christmas Labor pulled out of a cooperation deal known as "pairing," after the Conservatives were caught cheating by pairing one absent member of their party with two absent

members from different opposition parties.

Some 20 points behind Labor in most polls, Major appears to be hoping that Britain's strong economy, and a modest tax cut effective in April, can still draw back Tory defectors. A pattern of economie recovery after reces-

sion has helped keep the Conservatives in power since 1979. But the party has never been so unpopular for so loog.

The signs are that economic optimism is improving ... although it doesn't yet seem to have fed into people's willingness to vote Conservative," Donald MeIntyre, political commentator in a liberal London daily, The Independent, said yesterday.

Turk Cypriots say crisis not over

ANKARA (Reuter) - Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Deuktash said yesterday the crisis over the deployment of anti-aircraft missiles in Cyprus was not over, cootrary to the view of a US envoy. Turkey's Anatolian news agency

Asked if the missile crisis was cootinuing, Denktash said: "of course it's continuing...(Cypriot President Glafcos) Clerides has neither made a sacrifice nor a gesture. So what is going to happen after 16 months?"

Denktash was speaking at Ercan airport in the Turkish Cypriot north of the island after the departure of the Turkish armed forces chief General Ismail Hakki Karadayi.

Karadayi's visit marked a further show of support for the breakaway Turkish Cypriot state by Turkey, which last week threat-

ened to destroy a Russian-made S-300 missile system which Cyprus is planning to install.

US envoy Carey Cavanaugh earlier said the planned missile deployment was no longer a crisis because the Cyprus government assured him it would not import the system for at least 16 months.

Cavanaugh also said agreement was close on a military accord to reduce tension along the ceasefire line dividing Greek and Turkish

Cypriots.

The Cypriot government dismissed as a "misunderstanding" his reference to UN proposals relating to the unloading of live ammunicion among troops on either side of the 180-km ceasefire line and unmanning sentry posts.

"There has not been any agreement other than that which was already in place," Clerides told

Danish queen marks 25 years on throne

COPENHAGEN (Renter) -Denmark's Queen Margrethe II yesterday began a mixed three days of mourning and festivities. marking 25 years since the death of her father, King Frederik IX on January 14, 1972, and her accession to the throne.

Accompanied only by close family and friends, the 56-year-old queen visited her father's tomb in the ancient cathedral of Roskilde, west of Copenhagen, yesterday morning for a private memorial service.

Later in the day the royal family went to church again in parliament's Christiansborg Palace chapel, where they were joined by King Harald of Norway and the presidents of Finland and Iceland for a thanksgiving service.

Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf, Margrethe's cousin, did not attend. He is in mourning for an uncle, Prince Bertil, who was buried in Stockholm on Monday. Queen Margrethe is also related to Britain's Queen Elizabeth and separately to Prince Philip, but no member of the British royal family is attending the Copenhagen jubilee, Danish court officials said.

The Danish celebrations are

low-key, with none of the public partying seen at the Briosh queen's jubilee and no holiday to mark the occasion.

Main events are a state banquet in the parliament building yesterday and a ceremonial carriage ride through the capital today, followed hy a gala Royal Danish Ballet performance in the evening. Swedes were reminded how fiercely Danes cherish their monarch recently, when a Swedish journalist's criticism of Margrethe's public smoking looked set to revive traditional enmity between the neighboring

kingdoms.
Gothenburg newspaper columnist Hagge Geigert said that the queen "puffed away freely" during a visit to asthmatic residents of an

old people's home. Swedish unleashed a odal wave of outrage and Copenhagen newspapers covered their front pages with indig-

nant headlines.

"Smoke War against the Swedes", "Let the Queen Smoke in Peace", "Mind your own busing the control of the cont ness. Sweden" and "Keep up the puffing, Margrethe" were only a

SETTLER

Continued from Page 1

"I don't think that he [Netanyahu] loves Eretz Yisrael any less than we do," he said. "We should not make things look worse than they are. I suggest that we behave maturely. Not all the protests and demonstrations can be

repeated." At that point, Bella Gonen, a Kiryat Arba local council member, shouted out "Sit quietly, and let the prime minister sell the coun-

The gathering, something that ordinarily takes place only every few years, was called for by the settlement council after it appeared that Netanyahn had agreed to proceed with the next three stages of

redeployment. The council has interpreted his willingness to do so as meaning that at the end of the third stage, Israel will have already given up 90 to 95 percent of Judea and

the second secon

Wallerstein said that, in principle, this does not have to be the case, since the Oslo accords say that after the third withdrawal stage, all areas will be given to the Palestinians except for military installations and settlements.

Some, like former education minister Annon Rubinstein, have interpreted this to mean that much of the land will remain in Israeli hands, if by settlements what is meant is not just the built up areas of settlements, but also land around the developed areas that is included in various master plans. "I definitely think this has to be

Israel's position," Wallerstein said. The question is whether this interpretation will be acceptable to either the Palestinians or the Americans." Wallerstein said his fear is that the government will not be able to stand by this interpretation. "This fear is great," he said, "[because] the government has not been able to stand firm on any-

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romena, Jerusalem 91000 Telephone 02-531-5666, Pax 02-538-9527. CIRCULATION— 02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017. ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608, 02-531-5637-40 Pax 02-538-8408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277. HAIFA 20 Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-8623166, Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Luf. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1997, Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors. 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS, 1902, 1902 DAVID BAR ILLAN

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The price of water

AIN is finally beginning to fall again, ending weeks of unseasonably warm and dry weather. The beautiful weather was made less enjoyable by the daily reminders that Lake Kinneret is inching toward its minimum mark, and is over half a meter below the level of this time last year. This week's rains will not be enough to wash away the threat of drought, and Israel is once again reminded of the dangers ahead if questions of water supply are not addressed.

Israel has three main natural sources of water: the Kinneret, and two large aquifers, one under the coastal plain and the other under the mountainous area of the north. The demand for water is growing at a steady clip, as the population and standards of living rise. The supply from these natural sources is, meanwhile, decreasing as the country moves dangerously close to depleting the aquifers, particularly the larger coastal one.

In the past few years, salinity in the coastal aquifer has been rising, and even the pumping of fresh water from the Kinneret into the aquifer has not entirely reversed the trend. On top of this, Israel has also committed itself to providing Jordan with 215 millioo cubic meters of water a year, and there is the fear that uncontrolled Palestinian drilling for water in areas under Palestinian Authority cootrol will further eodanger Israel's fresh water supply. For years now, water experts have been warning of the crisis ahead, but as of yet no serious steps have been taken to address the situation on a longterm basis.

Whenever a drought looms, as at the moment, the calls multiply for public awareness campaigns to convince people not to waste water oo their gardens and cars. Some eveo look admiringly at cities in the United States and Europe that impose stiff fines for washing a car with a hose, or watering a garden in the heat of the day.

It would be a big mistake for Israel to follow the lead of these countries and focus on personal use as the big culprit in water consumption. There is a much more effective step that can and should be taken immediately: Stop subsidizing water to agriculture and industry.

Farmers and factories are the greatest consumers and the worst wasters of water. The reason they waste so much water is that the government chooses to keep the price of water artificially low in order to assist these sectors of the economy.

Israel is rightly proud of its world-class agricultural technology and of the accomplishment of "making the desert bloom." It is one thing to reclaim barren land and another to grow waterintensive crops, such as wheat and cotton, which are only economical with subsidized water. It makes no sense to complain about a water crisis while Israel continues to grow

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WORRISOME

Sir. - Recent developments in the

country would worry all but the blind.

The first relates to a ranking Histadrut official who disobeyed

a court order to appear in court.

His uner irresponsibility caused a

wild cat strike which paralyzed

the country and inflicted beavy

The second has to do with the

declaration of certain rabhis that

soldiers should refuse orders

requiring them to vacate parts of

the Land of Israel. Directly or not,

such declarations have brought

about the tragedy of an Israeli sol-

dier shooting at Palestinians in

Hehron, injuring several of them. Yes, one need be hlind not to be

worried, and irresponsible not to

insist that the government sees to

it that everybody obeys the law.

We must mend our ways, or the

BUS TRAVEL TO EGYPT

Sir, - Your reports on the cancel-

ing of Egged bus No. 100 to Cairo

might leave the uninformed with

the mistaken impression that the

bus travel to Egypt has been dis-

continued. This is far from the

case. Your readers still have the

option of a reasonably priced trip.

For many years, I have traveled to

and from Cairo by bus, without the

assistance of Egged. There are at least

two private tour agencies that run this

route (Nitza Tours and Mazada

Tours). I have used them with satis-

faction. Your readers may be pleased

to know that, unlike the Egged route,

there is still at least one bus every day

and frequently a night bus. This con-

venience costs only slightly more

than Egged charged for less of a ser-

vice. The round-trip is only NIS 150

and, for a minimal extra charge, a

traveler can even have the necessary

ARTHUR BŘAUNSTEIN

Egyptian visa within days.

RENE WEIL

state will disintegrate.

economic losses.

Let me point out two examples.

The issue here is not whether agriculture or industry should be subsidized - that may be a bad idea for other reasons. What is hard to understand is why a form of subsidy that is pitching the country headlong toward a water crisis should continue. It would be better to hand the farmers cash than to continue to subsidize water.

The fact that the price of water is determined by politics and oot the market causes other harmful distortions. Lots of money is wasted, for example, by pumping substandard water across the country for agriculture, when the sensible thing would be to treat the water and use it

In addition to freeing the price of water, the market ought to be opened up by breaking the monopoly of the government-owned company Mekorot, which should be privatized. The introduction of free market forces will have a doubly positive effect: Water conservation will be greatly increased and new sources of water will

be developed. While the supply of natural fresh water is limited, Israel has large reservoirs of brackish water that could be desalinated for about the same price as the real market price in some parts of the country. Even if the waste from distorted pricing is ended, desalination, and recycling of waste water will be needed to meet the growing demand. At the end of the day, there is no longterm water crisis - only a question of how much water will cost.

Telling the farm and industry lobbies that their free ride oo the water slide is over will oot be politically pleasant, but it is absolutely necessary. Clearly it cannot be done overnight, and compensation of some form will probably be necessary over the transition period. But the looger it is put off, the more Israel flirts with a water crisis born of political weakness rather than real natural limits.

The longer the government waits to administer the unpleasant medicine, the more bitter the medicine becomes. The question is not whether Israel will get the water it needs but from where: aquifers, recycling, waste treatment, or desalinatioo. The aquifers are the easiest and cheapest source of water, but if they are destroyed from over use the country will be forced to rely on more expensive sources. If the aquifers are saved by reducing consumption through market pricing, then Israel can prevent, or at least postpooe an increase in the real price of water.

By jealously guarding their water subsidies, the farm and industry lobbies are ironically inviting higher water prices in the long run, prices that will hit them hardest as the natioo's biggest consumers. The government will be doing everyone a favor, including those who complain the loudest, hy mustering the political will to phase out water subsidies as sooo as pos-

Ma'aleh Adumim was among the

Labor government's critics, while

serving in that government was a

distinguished rabbinical colleague

without any secular academic cre-

dentials. Asa-El's assertion that

the Jewish settlement in Judea and

Samaria has failed "to win most

Israelis' sympathy" is simply

untrue. Public opinion polls have

demonstrated consistent popular

support for Jewish settlement.

should not wait.

derful experience.

Neve Tzuf.

WISE MEN OF CHELM

Ph.D. and who does not.

of-mouth networking of this won-

of the Histadrut leadership will be

diminished as a result of the

strikes they have sanctioned, but

those of the working class they

allegedly represent will most cer-

modern-day wise men of Chelm

that communism is virtually extinct

and that this type of interruption of

major services is outrageous. A

court injunction against disruption

of such vital services is indeed in

order, and failure to comply should

result in incarceration for the

RONALD L. GRAY

offending Histadrut leadership.

Someone should inform these

tainly be adversely affected.

I doubt seriously if the salaries

VERBAL GUNSHOT

Sir, - Amotz Asa-El's attack on

modern religious Zionism ("Where

are you, Rabbi Reines?" January 3)

sprayed verbal gunshot at so many

religious and political figures both

past and present that m defend

some of them would appear to

imply agreement with his assault on

the rest. How does one reconcile

Asa-El's praises of "broad-minded-

ness" with the undiscerning tone of

his invective against "the assorted

Levingers"? Still, it is impossible to

gloss over the confusion between

form and content in Asa-El's char-

acterization of Rabbi Kook as

"Hegel-inspired." Although he did

not not "sport a Ph.D. from presti-

gious Central European universi-

ties" like the rabbis and politicians

idealized by Asa-El, Rabbi Kook's

philosophical proficiency was

wide-ranging and not limited to

Hegel. The content of his writings,

while borrowing terms from these

philosophers, is all based solidly on Torah sources.

Asa-El attempts a corollary

between secular education and a

dovish political stance. But Rabbi

Professor Nahum Rabinowitz of

Sir, - I would recommend that

the entire State of Israel turn out

in force to express their apprecia-

tioo to the leadership of the

Histadrut, which is certainly deserving of being credited with

being wiser than the wisest men of

Chelm. At a time when tourism to

Israel is suffering, resulting in sig-

nificantly reduced income for

thousands of citizens, the brilliant

leadership of the Histadrut choos-

es to further damage the all-

important tourism industry by

sbutting down Ben-Gurioo

Airport and causing untold grief

and hardship to so many innocent

victims. What a wonderful taste of

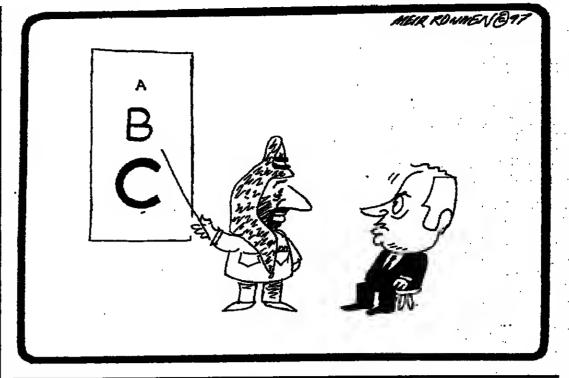
the Holy Land these people will

have. And, imagine the ultimate

impact resulting from the word-

Druckmans.

Porats and



Milk that might boil over

Jerusalem is, according to the Oslo Accords, to he addressed only in the final-status negotiations, it is not impossible that the entire peace process could fall apart over events in Jerusalem even before discussions get under

There are a number of danger spots. But the catalyst for such a somber development could come from Har Homa, and the proposal currently under consideration to huild a Jewisb neighborhood there

of 6,300 housing units. As with milk on the gas that is liable to boil over at any moment, we must be constantly on the

Building plans for Har Homa (Jahil Ghanieo) - south of Jerusalem and over the Greeo Line, in the direction of Bethlehem and Beit Sahour have yet to receive final government approval.

Binyamin Netanyahu is said to have decided against signing the plans at this stage because of the sensitivity of the subject for the Palestinians, because of American pressure, and in view of advice from the security authorities regarding possible consequences on the ground.

Faisal Husseini is mobilizing Arab and international as well as Palestinian public opinion against the project. He has said that, as happened over the Hasmooean tunnel issue, Har Homa could cause a spootaneous explosioo in view of accumulated Palestinian embitterment and frustration.

Husseini sees the project as part of a plot to strangle Arab Jerusalem and cut it off from the West Bank in geoeral, and Bethlebem in particular. It would indeed deprive towns like Beit Sahur and Beit Jalla of their natural potential development

The nearby village of Umm Tuba would be left with no land for development, following the expropriation in the 1970s of over half its land for the construction of

DAN LEON

the Jewish neighborhood of East Talpiot and a network of roads which doesn't serve the village. Former mayor Teddy Kollek

admitted that the now-beautiful JNF forest on Har Homa was built after the 1967 war in order to preserve the site for a future Jewish neighborbood. Nearly 2,000 dunams of land there were expropriated in 1991, about a third from Palestinians.

The latter turned to the High Court in 1994, asking that the appropriatioo be annulled, or housing for Palestinians included

The simmering Har **Homa project** could scald

the peace process beyond healing

in the new building project. Overall, between 1967, when the Palestinians owned about 90 percent of the land of East Jerusalem, and up to 1995, Israel took over 87 percent, leaving only 13.5 percent for the Palestinians to live on and develop.

At 170,000, the Jewish and Arab populations of East Jerusalem are... now about equal.

THE MOST militant protagonist of the Har Homa project is Mayor Ebud Olmert. Along with the NRP, he bears the standard raised aloft by the late deputy mayor, Shmuel Meir.

Olmert, who brooks no compromise on the plan, criticizes the government's hesitation over confirming it. He supports exclusively Jewish housing because of his principled oppositioo to binational neighborhoods (but supports building for Jews in the tiny Arab-inhabited Ras al-Amud area, another danger

He would like to see continuous

Jewish building on Jerusalem's southern belt, between East Talpiot and Gilo.

One unexpected supporter of Har Homa is former Labor housing minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who said recently in Ha'aretz: "Jerusalem is heing transformed into a divided city with the generous help of the prime minister. There are areas where it is forbidden to build. What goes on in greater Jerusalem – in Ma'aleh Adumim, Giv'at Ze'ev and Betar, places where I fought for continued construction and expansion - makes me weep." Yet under Labor govemmeots, ministers, aware of the implications for peace, refrained from signing the plans for Har Homa, in spite of Ben-Eliezer's

If the political echeloo confirms the plan, it might yet be torned down in the courts. Might this not be an honorable way out for Netanyahu?

Ben-Eliezer wants to outflank Olmert from the right in Jerusalem. He is one of the leading supporters of the Barak candidacy; does Barak agree with his stand?

It is odd to find a Labor leader attacking one of Netanyaho's wiser decisions, delaying the plans for Har Homa, It hardly promotes the opposition's credibility, and the Palestinians must be aware that it makes Labor appear more pugnacious than the Likud.

Possible Palestinian reaction? Husseini says the protest against Har Homa will be non-violent; but adds that were Israel to use force to crush it, he fears it could turn

Those who pray for the peace of Jerusalem will ask whether even 6,000 Jewish apartments in the city are worth the risks inherent in the decision to build them, in view of the very grave consequences for both Jerusalem and peace.

The writer is co-managing editor of the Palestine-Israel Journal.

That's how it is

YOSEF LAPID

EMEMBER The economy, stupid"? It was the slogan that got Bill Clinton into the White House. And it's our slogan in Israel

Now those who follow the media might think that the issue that shapes public opinion is our negotiations with the Palestinians. Indeed, it is the leitmotif of our existence.

But exceptional events aside terror attacks on the one hand and the signing of agreements on the other - the Palestinian problem isn't what determines the national

How can this be? Isn't the state of play with Arafat the main topic batted around in Israeli living rooms on Friday nights? Weren't we all awash in despair when it turned out that the peace we all yearn for is dissipating to the point of virtual disappear-

Yes it is, and yes we were. And that is precisely the reason we need to ask why, in that case, nothing has really changed in this country since the elections.

Why hasn't the emotional upheaval accompanying the nearsinking of the peace ship found expression in the public's attitude toward the government? Why hasn't the Left been able to mobilize the street in protest against the abandonment of the Oslo accords?

The political events of the past six months should have caused a huge social upset. They didn't. Why?

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And why will the signing of the Hebron agreement make little or no change in public attitudes? Because of the economy, stu-

THE MOOD of the citizenry doesn't sprout from the barrel of a gun. It wafts up from the dinner plate. Shimon Peres would have lost the elections by a greater margin had the economy not been

It mightn't be pretty. It may not be wise. But the --economy rules

doing so nicely. It was the economy that foiled

the media's attempt to enlist public opinion against this government. Even though our annual growth has good down from seven to four percent, it's still double the West's. We still have pockets of pover-

ty and social injustice, and some clouds are visible on the economic horizon.

But the fundamental truth is that nearly every citizen, whether new immigrant or old-timer, Jew or Arab, town-dweller or villager, is better off today than he was a year ago; and a year ago he was better off than he was two, three and four years ago.

It's hard to sell a used car because most Israelis prefer to buy new; it's hard to fill hotels in Eilat because most people go abroad. It's hard to sell small apartments because most people want large ones; and it's difficult to get a table in a restaurant or a Country Club membership because everything is so chock-

Even the stock market is flour-

This kind of optimism teods to provoke instant anger from the soh sister that oestles in every Jewish hosom. The news departments of TV and radio store lists of families living in packing crates, of sick old ladies and of single mothers hesieged hy children. They whip them out once a month following publication of the

Heaven forbid that the suffering of the weak and unfortunate should be shrugged off. On the contrary: The boom that has widened the social gap requires that we spend more oo alleviating their condition.

blur the fact that more Israelis today are better off than they have ever been. And this is the real determining index.

tortuous path to peace as long as the public's sense of material

Economic debates in the cabinet and Knesset, curbing inflation, narrowing the bodget deficit, reforming the economy. privatization, low unemployment and high wages - all these will have more influence on the government's public standing than Hebron's future, Arafat's tricks, Assad's threats, Clinton's

It mightn't be wise, or pretty. It mayn't be desirable. But that's how it is. The political situation isn't the determinant.

It's the economy, stupid.

<u>.</u>

A pivot called reciprocity

Now he faces the joh for which

But most significantly, Asa-El's suggestion for religious Zionism for many years to come. concentrating only the people and Torah while "leaving the Land of Israel for later generations" - is an echo of the traditional haredi, anti-Zionist position, that would postpone the reclamation of the Land of Israel until messianic times when the people, through their Torah observance, would be "worthy" of it. The position advocated hy religious Zionists. Rahhi Reines included, was that the land

The wholeness of that vision is more important than who has a RABBI JONATHAN BLASS

Assuming the agreement is approved by Yasser Arafat, who has been walking away from it for about two months, Netanyahu agrees to a final deployment from the West Bank hy September

wanted. There is nothing approaching agreement on how much of the West Bank the Israelis will leave. Eventually that and Jerusalem will be the make-or-

break issues. Netanyahu, and his supporters, see territorial negotiation as a matter of survival, time to spot

control of at least 40 percent of the West Bank outside the towns, much high ground and almost all

A.M. ROSENTHAL

the Jordan Valley. Labor would have settled for lots less - how

Still, if the Likud signs any ter-

ritorial agreement it is in effect

consenting to the creation of an

independent Palestinian state.

Netanyahu can call it an "entity"

if he wishes. He can call it gefilte

But he got what he needed to

continue talking peace and keep good faith with his own people. That is the conditions of reciproc-

ity that would make the talks

believable to the 56 percent of

For turning peace

talks into peace

reality, it's

indispensable

They are set down in a "note

for the record" hy the US team,

led by Dennis Ross. They com-

mit the Palestinians to do things

they promised at Oslo but have

never carried out, nor been under

ACCORDING to Israeli sources

Dismantling the terrorist super-

any world pressure to do so.

the cooditions are:

Israeli Jews who voted for him.

much it never said.

fish. It will be a state.

BINYAMIN Netanyahu speot most of the last few months trying to show the world that he was negotiating with the Palestinians in good

be was elected: either to show Israelis that he can give them a neace with security, or to tell them m decent time that it cannot be done - not now and prohably not

Netanyahu said before he was elected that he would work within the framework of the Oslo agreement signed by the defeated Labor government, and which he mistrusted. That meant giving up major West Bank towns, including Hebron. He got somewhat more security for those 400 Hebron Jews who believe it is not a crime for Jews to live in one of Judaism's holy cities.

Bot to make future talks worth bolding, he needed conditions on how to go on from Hebron - specific and internationally publicized steps of reciprocity from the Palestinians. To get that he paid a

1998 - almost a year before he

and mobilize against attack. He is likely to insist on military

structure in Palestinian-controlled territory. That either means disarming Hamas, Islamic Jihad and similar groups, or it means noth-Really, truly, at last scrapping

Palestinian movement. Reducing Palestinian armed forces to the one police organization of 18,000 allowed by Oslo not the half-dozen military groups that Arafat created with 45,000

the death-to-Israel covenant of the

Extraditing terrorists in Palestinian custody. Twelve of the 27 terrorists on Israel's wanted list are wearing Arafat's police uniforms now. Most of the others are walking free.

Closing offices outside Palestinian-controlled territory. Most important: no longer using Orient House in Jerusalem as a foreign office. Stopping the constant verbal

incitements against Israel hy Palestinian officials, Arafat on If Netanyahn gives up any of these conditions, he may kill the chances of majority support in his

cabinet. For its part, Israel commits itself to a preliminary redeployment and the beginning of finalround talks, both within two

It agrees to consider these steps: stopping closure of its borders against Palestinians as an economic punishment. release of current "security" prisoners, free passage hetween Gaza and other Palestinian-controlled territory, and a Gaza

international airport.

Egypt and other Arab states will have fascination fits if Arafat lives up to the reciprocity conditions. They know it would remove Palestinians from the constant state of political warfare against Israel that has been basic Arab strategy for a halfceotury.

So I doubt Arafat will live up to the reciprocity conditions for

But whatever he decides, ending the anti-Israeli political war will remain an underlying condition for ever turning peace talks into peace reality. That has been written in blood, for so long.

(Courtesy of the New York

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A STATE OF THE STA

C-o-L index.

But no social demagoguery can

Netanyahu can tiptoe along the well-being stays intact.

handshakes, and Hizbullah's terror.

The author is editorial writer for Ma'ariv.

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Powerless rangers

The state of the s don't allow my boys to watch Power Rangers on TV, but they see it at other people's houses. Then they come home and start kicking and hitting each other. What can I do?

Marcia Levine-Shbiro, psy-chotherapist, Counseling Center for Women and chief psychologist, Beit Hayeled, replies:

It is very tough to control what your children watch at someone else's house. But just as with vegetarians visiting meat-eating friends, i an mik or children who keep kosher playing at the home of friends who do not, you can teach them to say, "I'm not supposed to watch that." If your children are not able to resist the temptation (and it is a big one for young children), you might my to coordinate television-watching with their friends' parents if they are willing.

You should be aware, however, that studies have not proven conclusively the effects of viewing TV violence. Despite our best efforts, children will continue to be bombarded with macho Ramboesque figures on TV and in computer games. Even certain of our heroic historical figwes are of the blood-and-guts variety. But in my experience, children who are not aggressive in the first place do not develop aggressive, hullying characteristics through media violence saturation.

What is the meaning of children's adoption of the voice, stance, and combat techniques of "power" figures? They represent power over fear, over powerlessness. Children imitate these figures in an effort to capture those same protective, pow-erful psychic properties. We find even in the most pacifist, weaponfree house, where children are minimally exposed to media violence, that ladles become swords and dolls become cannonballs. This kind of play meets the needs of children who are in reality quite vulnerable. They need to feel powerful, in control, able to defend themselves against real and imagined dangers and nonspecific anxieties.

what else can you do? Firstly, limiting programs conveys a message. about acceptable behaviors and can reduce exposure to negatively stimulating and frightening graphic vio-lence. Secondly, clearly delineate fantasy play from reality, emphasizing the make-believe aspect, and prohibiting games if anyone really

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

gets hun. Thirdly, let the children imitale and practice on manimate objects - not you, the cat or each other. Fourthly, if it appears the chilthen are using this behavior as a channel for expression of specific auger, work on more appropriate and effective ways of expressing these feelings, such as identifying that they are angry and talking about it. And lastly, since children and adults often feel powerless and frightened, give them other tools for understanding and coping. Fears are not our enemies; they warn us of danger. There are other ways to combat them than becoming fear-inducing objects ourselves. Even Power Rangers often feel

like powerless rangers. Even though we may wish for ultimate power, there is always someone stronger. And as on the larger political front, the threat and power-escalation game tends to be less effective than negotiation.

There are many other kinds of power and courage which can be taught directly or through modeling the behavior endinance, walking away from trouble, knowledge (the pen being mightier than the sword), etc. It is often useful for children to learn martial arts which emphasize discipline and control and instill confidence rather than aggression.

The key here is confidence, and identification - especially with powerful parents - is a way of gaining confidence. The fact that young children idealize their parents is central to their development. You are not only a loving, warm parent mirroring to your children how great they are, you are, to them, powerful figures, confident of your ability to fix things, to help. Even though you don't always feel that way, don't disillusion them yet!

Despite the fact that we as parents are no longer the distant, omnipotent figures of earlier generations, we may want to shield our children from both our most imational and realistic fears and amoreties. This doesn't mean you can't tell your children you are afraid of roller coasters; it is important that they know that you This kind of play may also serve as can tolerate and respect a self who is a way to "sneak in" an expression of also sometimes aliaid. But maintainreal anger against the person with ing an illusion of a safe place inhabit, cinema. This documentary, the never even got to sit down in his whom the child is "fighting," ited by powerful, protective figures, first film made in Ralesting, was, office.

But, other than understanding, for long enough to build a sense of produced in 1896. Most of the security is an invaluable gift to give your children.

> Last week's question about preparing children for possible rejection from schools was answered by Sylvia Zilberman, senior educational psychologist. Her name was inadvertently omitted.

There are no free lunches or rather afternoon teas even if one happens to be the wife of the president. Reuma Weizman, who hosted wives of foreign diplomats stationed in Israel for afternoon tea at the Israel Museum and accompanied them on a tour of the Pont-Aven exhibition, was coostantly taken aside hy the museum's PR personnel to pose for photographs. The event was further proof that female ambassadors get the best of both worlds. They get to hobbob with the men oo matters of state and with the women at eveots organized for diplomatic spouses.

Weizman's guests included Slovenian amhassador Darja Bavdas Kuret, who brought along her hushand Milos, and Philipp ines amhassador Rosalinda de Perio-Sautos. Weizman was particularly happy to see Mohini Manon, the wife of the lodian ambassador, io whose company she had recently spent a week during her husband's state visit to India. Another guest at the museum was Ninette Monod, wife of the Swiss ambassador, who will be traveling to Basel with the Weizmans later this year for the 100th anniversary celebrations of the First Zionist Congress.

Monod, a former El Al stew ardess, met her husband in Israel 30 years ago. He was then working for the Red Cross and they were both invited to a garden party at the home of the then Swiss ambassador, little realizing that one day they would be taking his place.

AND TALKING of 100th anniversaries, Amy Kronish; curator of Jewish and Israeli Film at the Israel Film Archive at the Jerusalem Cinematheque, went just slightly beyond a cen-tury when she chose a clip of Jerusalem to show to members of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel in a seven-clip film lecture on 100 years of Ziooism through Israeli footage shown was of the Old City, and members of the aodience delightedly pointed to still recognizable sites. Among those present was oewly appointed AACI National Executive Director Leah Ronen.

DEFENDING HIS decision to

No free lunches



Reuma Weizman (center) accompanies the wife of Inidia's ambassador Mohini Manon (left) and Maatchen Land, the wife of South Africa's ambassador, on a tour of the Israel Museum; Koor's Benny Gaon turned to his son for a bit of ghost writing. (Flash 90; Israel Sun)

join the team of Labor leader-ship candidate Ehud Barak, MK Uzi Baram, in an address at Land, wife of the South African him write his, he the Radisson Moriah Hotel to a ambassador, has been trying for joint meeting of the Jerusalem Ecocomic Forum and the Israel Management Center, produced a letter from dove Shlomo rettes, which are nicotine-free Avineri commending his stand.

THE MOST visibly active Labor MK, who's oot running for leadership this time around, hut who's preparing the ground for high placement in the Labor primaries is Ophir Pines, Pines was in the forefront of this week's witch-hunt against the hapless Roni Bar-On whose period of tenure as Attorney Geoeral was so short, that he

APOLOGIES notwithstanding, President Ezer Weizman will have a hard time living down his anti-gay remarks. One of the new entertainers oo the drag-queen circuit goes hy the name of Miss Ginger in recognition of the spice that disagreed with the president during his tour of India.

years to give up smoking. While visiting her local pharmacy, she saw a package of ginseng cigaand which are often used hy smokers who can't quit the hahit cold turkey. She thought it was a hit strange that the cigarettes were yellow instead of white, hut presumed that the color had something to do with

the cure. Feeling the urge, she lit up at the beauty salon while waiting to have her hair dooe. The smell was distinctly evocative of pot, and everyone in the salon was quick to say so. There was nothing on the package to pidicate will be here at any marijuana content to the the end of April. hlend, hut Land has hutted out until it can he established have yet to be finalized. whether her ginseng fags can be legally puffed in Israel.

MOST autobiographies of the rich and famous are produced with the aid of ghost writers. Wheo Koor CEO Benny Gaon didn't have to go very far. His soo. Boaz Gaon, is a inumalist who was only too pleased to help out his dad.

looks as Richard Gere may find his way to the Holy Land for the opening of an exhibition of his photographs. Word is out that Gere hut negotiations

HER CAREER on both the large and the small screen will he to say the least - ephemeral. Elizabeth Hurley, who was catapulted into the international public eye wheo her boyfrieod

AFTER A 13year hiatus, it

> with a hooker, may be heautiful, hut she just can't act. After being roughly panned hy the critics, Liz has decided to call it a day with the flicks and to focus oo being the face that promotes Estee Lauder cosmetics.

Hugh Grant played hookey

Where the word is mightier than the knife

month for girls in Kenya. It's the time when ritual circumciscrs are busy slicing off part or all . of adolescents' external genitalia as their rite of passage into womanhood. In one area of Kenya, 95 percent of girls over 12 are circumcised.

But, this past December, 49 hucky girls in the Tharaka Nithi district, 150 kilometers northeast of Nairobi, celebrated their coming of age with-out spilling a drop of blood. Their momers had joined a program offering an alternative rimal: initiation or "circumcision" through education.

instead of the traditional week-

long seclusion to recover from the wounds, there were five days of classes on male and female anatomy, reproduction, decision-making, pregnancy prevention, and control and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. On the sixth day, the girls, aged 14 to 20, were showered with gifts from their parents, relatives and invited guests, and, dressed in new clothes, celebrated their entry into womanhood in a public ceremony similar in form to the traditional one.

Before the official ceremony began, the mothers sang and danced for their daughters. "The people of Tharaka Nithi will be forced to listen, even if they don't want to, as nothing will force us to circumcise with a knife," one mother sang. "Listen so you hear and don't make a mistake:
No one forced these gris to refuse
female commission. They decided for themselves, as did their parents,"

sang another. "We will teach all good qualities of the tradition but will not circumcise with a knife, only through education," the chorus sang, repeating the words of a soloist.

"Nunira na Mugambo," literally "circumcision with words" but translated as "circumcision through education," is catching on quickly in Tharaka Nithi, where - prior to the new program - researchers found that 90 percent of the interviewed women over the age of 14 had been been cincumcised, often in very unhygienic conditions. Female circumcision is practiced in more than half the districts in Kenya. Rimal circonncisers are active in 28 African

Besides the immediate physical and psychological trauma of this "surgery," which often results in hemorrhage, infection, and even death, there are longterm effects, including painful intercourse, diffi-cult childbirth, and incontinence. Governments, international development agencies, the UN, women's organizations, and professional asso-ciations have condemned the practice, but have yet to translate their policy into effective projects at the

community level. Credit for the idea of an alternative rimal goes to Margot Zimmerman, who for the past three years has been the director in Kenya of the Program for Appropriate Technology m Health (PATH), a US-based nongovernmental organization dedicated to improving health - especially

A new ritual for adolescent girls is helping to eradicate female circumcision in Kenya, Esther Hecht reports

of women and children. They said female circumcision was traditional, but the most important parts of the tradition - educating a woman for adult life - were lost." Zimmerman said. "Circumcision also meant the end of a girl's schooling. All that was left was the cutting." She proposed maintaining the celebration and reinstituting the educational aspect of the initiation. albeit with modern content, thus cre-

Initial responses to the idea were negative. "That's a Western idea. Alternative rituals are not part of their tradition," she was told at the headquarters of Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO), promiscuity, and promote easy

ating a substitute rite of passage.

the largest women's organization in the country. But MYWO was committed in principle to eradicating the mutilation, and eventually saw Zimmerman's point. The program in Tharaka Nithi is a joint project of the

two organizations. To introduce their idea in an area where belief in witchcraft is still strong, the program's planners first had to understand why the practice persisted. Besides being the most significant rite of passage to adulthood, it is also considered to enhance tribal cohesion, provide girls with respect and recognition from their peers, increase a girl's chances of marriage, prevent

childbirth. Community enforcement is through myths about an uncircumcised girl: for example, that her genitals will grow uncontrollably, her husband will die, the midwife who delivers her can go blind.

Kenya's first alternative ritual was held this August - another favored month for circumcision - when 28 girls in Tharaka Niki district celebrated their initiation in a ceremony attended by more than 400 people from the neighboring villages. They sang songs about the evils of female circumcision and the benefits of staying in school and rejecting the idea of early marriages.

Ntanira na Mugambo quickly

spread to three other locations in the district Grace Gatiria, a deputy headmistress of a primary school, explained why she wanted her daughter to take part in the December alternative ritual. Traditionally, female circumcision

need to cut a girl. God created her the way she should be." Augusta Nkinga John, 37, said she and her husband decided not to circumcise their daughters because she has seen that women who come to

was associated with girls leaving

school," she said, "Also, there is no

deliver at her health center suffer from many problems. According to Zimmerman, not

only the mothers favor the new ritual. The December support group The change has not gone unop-

posed. Aniceta Kirigo, a MYWO district officer and one of the planners of the August ceremony, said she and her husband have been subjected to abuse.

According to Kirigo, those in favor of female circumcision have spread rumors, saying, for example, that the organizers gave all the girls injections to prevent their clitorises from growing long and large, and that the uncircumcised girls would be cursed and thus become infertile. The girls, however, know what

they want. Those initiated in August sang to the December initiates: "Your body is a temple. Don't change or ruin it."

And I Shall Dwell Among The Historic Synagogues of the World Photographs and commentary by Neil Folberg

DEAFor the last three years Neil Followg, a former s Ansel Adems, has travelled the world, visiting Je communities past and present and photographin grand-scale and modest synagogues, in places from India to the Czech Republic, to Israel, the A South and the Caribbean. An essay by Yom Tov. focuses on the social and cultural history of the Neil Folberg's first-person account of his photogr accompanies each of the chapters, which are dir geographic regions. A superb full color album, it a vibrant window onto the Jewish cultural past.

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POST CLASSIFIEDS

National Parks Authority To add some adventure to life. Due to annual inspection,

the cable car at Masada will not operate on Monday, January 27, 1997.

The ascent to the summit will be possible only on foot by the ramp (on the west side) or the Snake Path.

The cable car will resume operation on Tuesday, January 28.

BUSINESS

in brief

Finance C'ttee okays gas, tobacco tax hike

The Knesset Finance Committee retroactively approved the hikes in gasoline and cigarette taxes that were part of the government's 1997 deficit-reduction package yesterday. The rise in cigarette taxes averaged 15.4 percent, and is expected to bring in NIS 245 million this year. Gas taxes rose 9.2%-15.1%, depending on the type nf gas, bringing in NIS 390m. In addition, the committee approved cancellation of the 33% cut in taxes on heating oil that originally accompanied the gas-tax hikes, which the government revoked when the Knesset refused to eancel a half-tax credit for married working women. This will save NIS 80m.

Opposition MKs apposed the gas-tax hikes, saying they not only violated the government's promise not to raise taxes, but would hurt the poor far more than an income-tax hike would have. The committee did not discuss a proposal to cancel the tax exemption on locally made car air-conditioners, because the Treasury has acceded to Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy's request to reconsider the issue. Cancellation of the exemption, which was also meant to compensate for the failure to cancel the married women's tax credit, would save some NIS 120m.

MKs propose independent review for their pay

MKs Ra'anan Cohen, Elie Goldschmidt (both Labor) and Benny Elon (Moledet) submitted a bill proposing that an external public body determine MKs wages and conditions, rather than parliamentarians themselves. Goldschmidt said such a body should have sole authority in determining MKs' salaries. 'The public perceives the situation today as the cat looking after the eream," be said.

Israel, Jordan ease border security checks

A joint Jordanian-Israeli committee is to be established to examine ways of easing security checks on the transportation of goods between the countries. Prior to January 1, all Jordanian trucks were unloaded at the border for inspection, with the goods being taken on to their final destination in Israeli vehicles. This year the governments have allowed drivers to make the journey without transferring the cargo. Now the governments have agreed to hold talks to finalize arrangements, particularly concerning security.

Recommendations are expected in two weeks.

David Harris

Marketing managers get NIS 9,000 a month

A recently released salary survey by the Association for Marketing Communications revealed the 1996 average gross salary for marketing managers was NIS 9,000 per month, excluding benefits. Established in 1993, the association has 50 members, primarily from high-tech companies in the computer software, hardware, tele- and data-communications, satellite and medical equipment fields. The organization was founded to provide a forum for marketing managers to share information on mutual areas of interest.

Bill: Give unemployment pay to self-emp

MK Avraham Poraz (Meretz-Shinui) filed a bill that would allow self-employed people to receive unemployment pay if they stop their own work and fail to find new employment. To avoid possible exploitation of the law, the bill specifies that the unemployment money would be paid only to those above age 25 who have not worked for a year. Poraz also filed a bill yesterday to ease income-tax payments for those who are paying for their own institutionalization. Today, only relatives who are supporting someone in an institution are granted the tax benefits. Liet Collins

Croatia joins US Balkan cooperation initiative

ZAGREB (Reuter) - Croatia. laying to rest earlier reservations. has agreed to join a United States initiative to bolster economie cooperation among southeastern European countries, US and Croatian officials said on yester-

"We reached an understanding as to the outlines of nur cooperation," US envoy Richard Sehifter said after a meeting with ailing Croatian President Franjo Tudiman. Schifter, a counsellor at the US National Security Council, said some details were left to be worked out later in the day with the members of the Croatian gov-

ernment but he gave no details.
Croatia and neighboring
Slovenia were the only former Yugoslav republics to reject preliminary membership in the US-sponsored Southeast European Cooperation Initiative (SECI). The initiative, launched in Geneva in December, envisages bolstering economic, environment and infrastructure ecoperation among 12 Balkan countries, including Yugoslavia and Bosnia.

The nriginal invitation to Yugoslavia, which comprises Serbia and Montenegro, was temporarily withdrawn because of



political turmoil there during the past two months over disputed results in municipal elections.

Croatia has previously rejected all US and European Union efforts to boost its relations with other former Yugoslav republics, elaiming the efforts were aimed at resurrecting the federation from which it seceded in blood in 1991.

The country's long-term ambition to join the European Union and NATO made it extremely sensitive to any attempt by the "for-eign factors" to elassify it as a Balkan, as opposed to a central European or Mediterranean

An editorial in the leading Croatian daily newspaper Vjesnik lashed out at the US initiative yesterday, calling it "most unacceptable" for Croatia. It argued that the plan was just a pretext for drag-ging the country into a political association with other Balkan nations with whom Croatia had had bad experiences in the past. Tudjman's chief of cabinet, Hrvoje Sarinic, said after the meeting Croatia was willing to accept the initiative, but only in its "concrete" aspects, those regarding building powerlines, gas

pipelines and roads.
The president said in a very strong and clear way that any union or association is out of the question," Sarinic told reporters.

Tudiman, 74, who is reported to incurable be suffering from stomach cancer, did oot appear before reporters. But Schifter said it was never a part of the initiative to impose a political framework

for cooperation in the region.
"I mentioned to the president that precisely this was not the intention," be said, adding that bringing political items on the agenda of this kind would inevitably result in one side getting an advantage over another.

Sehifter was scheduled to travel to the Slovenian capital Ljubljana later yesterday.

Israel to join IMF list of industrialized nations

By DAVID HARRIS

The International Monetary Fund has decided to add Israel to its list of industrialized countries, commencing in April, the Bank of Israel announced yesterday.

In a statement, the central bank said it hopes the listing will help Israel's chances of improving its international credit rating and general economic standing, which is also dependent on the country's future

macroeconomie policy and performance.
Currently, Israel is credit rated A3 by Moody's Investors Service and A minus by Standard and Poor's. The higher Israel's credit rating, the less interest it has to pay in raising money on foreign bonds mar-

The decision to include Israel in the list was taken after the central bank called on the IMF to rethink the country's status.

The IMF informed the bank that the decision was taken in light of the ongoing

accelerated changes in the economy. In addition South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan have also been added to the IMF's "Ivy League" states, a list which until now included 23 countries, headed by the US, Japan and Germany.

The standard of living, together with economie and financial market development, were given as the reasons for the inclusion of the five states.

While we've been promoted to the top league, it also means we'll bave to achieve more," said a Bank of Israel source. "This

way a free ticket to ride, therefore we must implement the right economic policies, Any sudden, prolonged increase in inflation for example will stick out as a fail-

A senior adviser to the IMF said that the listing does not have implications. "Each country can borrow according to its said the adviser.

This is not the first time Israel's IMF stams has been redesignated. In recent years the Fund decided having just two hands of nations, "industrialized" and "developing" was insufficient. It meant that Israel, Singapore and other comparatively advanced economies were elassed alongside poor African and Asian

is a significant development, but is in no Consequently, over a period of a year the organization created a sub-group of some 20 "emerging markets," which included China, India, and Thailand, in addition to Israel.

Israel's receipt of foreign aid will not be affected by the status changes, but the central bank source suggested the new status should encourage Israel to think about donating aid to developing countries as other economically successful states routinely do.

Another change is being considered ahead of the April publication of the IMF's next survey of world economic developments World Economic Outlook. Israel and the other 27 industrial nations will, in all probability, be re-classed as "Advanced Economies."

Central bank to reduce banks' liquidity by 5%

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The Bank of Israel intends to increase commercial banks' liquidity requirements in the near future by 5 percent, a measure expected to restrain the money supply and reduce savers' returns on their deposits, a source close to the central bank said yesterday.

The proposed change is in line with the Bank of Israel's plans to absorb excess liquidity in the market. The money supply, mainly . cash and checking accounts, increased by 3% in December, after increasing 0.4% in November

and falling by 1.5% in October. The increase last month was mainly due to large injections by the government to finance the budget deficit, which reached a record high of NIS 4 billion. An increase in bank liquidity requirements will reduce money available to the banks to lend and, in this way, reduce the supply of money in the economy, said a banking

SOUTCE. On deposits of seven days and up to a year, there is a 3% liquidity on the issue.

requirement. Under the new proposal, the liquidity requirements will be raised to 11% and 8% respectively.

The Bank of Israel will not pay interest on the money banks deposit to cover for the higher liquidity requirement. As a result, banks will not be able to take advantage of all the money deposited with them. This is expected to lead to a reduction in credit interest and an increase in banks' margins.

The move contrasts with the Bank of Israel's liberalization program, which was implemented in 1987, when the average commercial bank liquidity requirement stood at 63%. However, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel is womied by the fact that the domestic deficit has not only exceeded its target, but is partly financed by foreign currency, at the expense of raising capital in Israel Raising capital on the local market is a method of absorbing money from

3 THE

the public. period of up to six days have to announce the new proposal in the meet a 6% liquidity requirement. near future. A Bank of Israel

Koor agrees to sell Hanita to US firm

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Koor Industries yesterday announced it has signed an agreement in principal to sell it's 100 percent holding in Hanita Metal Industries to the US-based Greenfield Industries, Koor yesterday informed the Tel Aviv

Stock Exchange. The agreement was signed about four years after the manufacturer of industrial cutting tools was close to shutting down because of large debts. Through internal restructuring, Koor has turned the Gaon said the group's decision to sell is in the framework of its philosophy of focussing on core businesses and gradually selling lines that don't fit with those areas.

Greenfield is one of America's largest industrial cutting-tools and related products manufacturers. The public company which is traded in New York completed the

approvals, including the approval of both companies' boards of

Meridor considers joint projects during Jordan visit

Striking South Korean workers remain defiant despite standing in clouds of tear gas after

skirmishes with police as they tried to reach Myongdong cathedral in Seoul yesterday. There

was only a token turnout for the nationwide strike which began yesterday, but the militant

Shaath: Regional projects trozen

since Cairo summit

advance diplomatic relations would

also have a knock-on effect on the

"This is pretty much the case," one Israeli dealing with the projects said yesterday. "But there was a

similar hall for a couple of months after the Amman summit too. So 1

However, the source admitted the

lack of momentum is disappointing,

"But we're beginning to learn to live

It is an inevitable consequence of

the lack of progress in talks with the Palestinians, Finance Minister Dan

Meridor's adviser on regional

development Rafi Benvenisti said

last might. "It's all part of the process

You can't separate politics and the

economy. To me this is no surprise."

out that some of the projects, partic-

ularly in the private sector are going ahead according to plan. Much of the groundwork for an industrial

area on the Jordanian side of the

Sheikh Hussein Bridge has now

While politicians and eivil ser-

been completed, for example.

The Israeli side is keen to point

wouldn't read too much into it."

with disappointments."

Korean union movement has ordered its 500,000 members to down tools today.

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

By DAVID HARRIS

Regional economic projects between the Palestinian Authority,

Israel, Egypt and Jordan have

been effectively frozen as a result of the diplomatic impasse over Hebron, PA Planning and

International Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath told the

The failure to achieve a break-

through on the Hebron redeployment

has lead to a standstill on the eco-

nomic front, according to Sheath.

Everything has been frozen, await-

ing this opening that I hope will come very soon," be said.

multimillion dollar regional projects since the November Cairo econom-

ic summit, added Shaath. During the

three-day event, Shaath, Finance

Minister Dan Meridor and ministers

from Jordan and Egypt, told a large audience of businessmen and civil servants from throughout the world

that the projects could play a major

role in helping the peace process, but Shaath warned that failure to

There has been no progress on the

Jerusalem Post this week.

Cooperation

Senior government officials described Finance Minister Dan Meridor's visit to Jordan yesterday as "highly successful," but said many more meetings are needed to establish real progress on the economic front.

During the one-day visit Meridor discussed with Jordanian officials ioint development projects and bolstering trade ties.

The first round of talks was held with Crown Prince Hassan, who extended the invitation to Meridor. The meeting was attended by the US ambassadors to Jordan and Israei.

The discussions focused on Jordan Rift Valley development projects ahead of a regional conference between the two sides. "The talks aim at finding ways to

move forward in joint projects and promoting joint ventures," Israel's Amman embassy spokesman Shalom Tourgeman told reporters. There are no specific projects being discussed ... They're putting



Crown Prince Hassan (Universal Pictorial Press)

ideas on the table and discussing how they can be implemented."

During the meeting, the two discussed the possibility of raising funds abroad for the tourist, airport and other planned projects. Meridor and some 20 accompa-

nying Israeli businesspeople and government officials later toured the valley. The group was mer by 60 Jordanian counterparts for a conference, where they expressed their

desire for improved economic ties. The Shalom airport project must be advanced as soon as possible, Hassan told the gathering. Meridor also discussed with Prime Minister Abdul-Karim Kabariti easing customs duties and finding ways to encourage the flow of people and goods across the border.

vants may not be in regular contact

over the plans, the various regional

infrastructure studies are progress-

ing. Work on plans for a network of

roads linking the four regional partners is nearing completion, according to the Israeli source, and should

Little progress was made on the

regional projects between the Arman summit in 1995 and last

November's Cairo conference.

Among the key proposals are joint

tourism and transportation develop-ments in the Jordan Rift Valley, Gulf

of Akaba and along the southeast

Meanwhile, construction of the

Karni industrial park in Gaza, has

been slowed down in recent weeks.

"Some work has been done, but I hope it will propel itself," Shaath

Shaath stressed once again the

need to end the elosure as soon as

possible. "I know it's much better

now than it was two months ago,"

he said. "But really ending closure

puts mutuality at parity, to allow

Mediterranean coastline.

be published shortly.

In a meeting with Jordanian Water Minister Samir Ka'awar. Meridor and Water Commissioner Meir Ben-Meir offered to supply Jordan with an additional 50 million cubic meters of water a year, as called for by the peace agreement. It will cost an estimated \$175 million to pump the extra water across the border, and the two sides agreed to look for foreign sponsors for the

"We need to build a framework of confidence and cooperation, which we are committed to doing," said

Both Hassan and Ka'awar said the Jordan Rift Valley projects must come to fruition to ensure stability and economic development in the

PRINTER WELLER

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

a MONTHS

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (14.1.97) CHECKS AND

	TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.	
	Buy	Seii	Buy	Sell	Rates	
Currency basket	3,5873	3,6452			3.6172	
U.S. dollar	3.2339	3.2861	3.17	3.34		
German mark	2.0357	2.0686			3.2590	
Pound sterling	5.4043	5.4915	2.00	2.10	2.0562	
French franc	0.6029	0.6127	5.31	5.57	5.4481	
Japanesa yan (100)		0.8127	0.59	0.63	0.5086	
Dutch florin	2.7768	2.8216	2.72	2.87	2.7993	
Surface Assess	1.8124	1.8417	1.78	1.87	1.8296	
Swiss tranc	2.3554	2.3934	2.31	2.43	2.3804	
Swedish Irons	0.4650	0.4728	0.45	0.48		
Norwegian krone	0.5069	0.5151	0.49		0.4591	
Danish krone	0.5342	0.5429	0.70	0.53	0.5117	
Finnish mark	0.6807	0.8917	0.52	0.58	0,5391	
Canadian dollar	2.3980	2.4347	0.66	0.71	0,6870	
Australian dollar	2.5113		2.35	2.47	2.4127	
S. African rand		2.5519	2.48	2.59	2.5347	
Belgian franc (10)	0.6917	0.7029	0.62	0.71	0.6970	
Austrian mate (10)	0.9871	1.0031	0.97	1.02	0.9966	
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8943	2.9410	2.84	2.99	2.9209.	
Italian Bra (1000)	2.0932	2.1270	2.05	2.16		
Jordanian dinar	4.5000	4.8000			2.1,100	
Egyptian pound	0.9200	1.0000	4.50	4.80	4.5626	
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first nine months of 1996 with sales of \$384.1m., up 28% over the same period last year. The growth was mainly due to acquisitions. In the reported period, operating income reached \$46.9m. while net income reached \$20.9m. Finalization of the agreement is ack Trading List. subject to the completion of due diligence, signing of a more detailed agreement and other

company around and made it into a well-known brand name on the local market and US market. Koor is expected to reap capital gains of NIS 35 million once the agreement is finalized. Capital market sources estimate the company will be sold for \$20m. to \$25m.

Koor Chief Executive Benjamin

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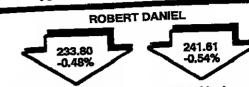
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Shares slip as traders watch inflation

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



Two-Sided index

Shares slipped as investors awaited today's inflation report for clues to whether the central bank will cut

Israel Chemicals, IDB Holdings, Eiron Electronic, Osem and Delek led the market down. Bucking the trend were Clal Electronics, Elbit, Israel Land Development and

Stocks remain near three-year highs. The Two-sided Index of 100 leading issues dropped 0.48 percent to 233.8, while the Maof Index of 25 top stocks fell 0.54% to 241.61. Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. NIS 172 million of shares traded, 7.4% higher than the month's daily average of NIS 160.2m. Seven issues fell for every

Daniella L. Finn, head of research at Batucha Securities and Investments, estimated the consumer price index rose 0.6% or 0.7% for December, a figure that should prompt central bank Governor Jacob Frenkel to lower

interest rates. In addition, a report from the central bank yesterday showed that the economy slowed in the fourth quar-

The rate cut "definitely won't be more than half a point" as "Frenkel is known to be pretty adamant about his contractionary monetary policy," Firm said.

Lower rates cut corporate borrowing costs and can boost profits

Maof index The most active stock was Koor Industries Ltd., which rose 0.5% to

NIS 315.47 on volume of NIS 16.8m Koor, continuing a strategy of shedding peripheral businesses,

shedding peripheral businesses, said yesterday that it agreed to sell an industrial tools maker. Hanita Metal Works Ltd., to Greenfield Industries Inc. of Augusta, Georgia. Clal Electronics advanced 2% to 383.74. Monday, ECI Telecom Ltd., a telecommunications-equip-Ltd., a telecommunications-equipment maker of which Clal owns about 25%, was reiterated "buy" at New York securities firm Lehman

Shares of Elbit were 5% higher at 9.03. Elbit shares traded in New York rose 15% Monday and have jumped 44% in the past six trading

days.

Israel Chemicals dropped 3.5% to
3.16, IDB Holdings shed 2.5% to 64.14, and technology holding company Elron lost 1% to 40.94.

Both foods producer Osem and gasoline marketer Delek moved down 3.25%, to 17.23 and 83.19 respectively.

Israel Land Development soared 8% to 15.34. Its American depositary receipts jumped 4.1% in New York yesterday.

Mofet, which has investments in companies including a stake in Vocaltec, the producer of systems that allow people to converse over the Internet, leaped the 10% daily limit, to 1.615, on top of a 6% rise

UK, French stocks gain

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

stocks posted strong gains yester-day for the second day in a row, as fears of an immiment rise in British index rose 22.06 to 2.978.84. US inflation data reduced the pressure for a near-term US interest rate rise. Led by surging bank and supermarket stocks, the FTSE 100 record 4,168.2.

US kept the German share market muted, with the blue chip DAX index sliding slightly. The 30-share DAX closed the bourse ses-

LONDON (Reuter) - British sion down 6.07 points at 2,948.88

to close firmly above the psychological 2,400 level. The market was already well supported on finished 60.9 points higher at a bullish profit expectations and low rates for 1997. When US inflation Uncertainty ahead of the release and retail sales data was reported of December price data from the in line with expectations a buying

Dow sets another record

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuter) — The Dow Jones industrial average galloped to its sixth record close of the year yesterday, powered by gains in technology companies and economically sensitive stocks.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow jumped 53.11 points to 6,762.29, beating Monday's record finish of 6,709.18. In the broader market, advancing issues led declines by a 2-1 margin on heavy volume of 532 million shares on the New York Stock

WHERE TO GO

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581-0108; Dar Aldswa, Fictous Gales, 628-2058. Tel Aviv: Pharme Daf Jabotinsky, 125 lbn Gvirol, 546-2040; Kupert Holim Ctalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 523-2383. Tell 3 a.m. Thursday: Pharma Daf Jabotinsky, 125 lbn Gvirol, 546-2040. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 541-3730; London Ministore Superpharm, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115. Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupel Holim Maccabi, 47 Hahayil, Ra'anana, 740-7736. Netanya: Magen, 13 Weizmann, 882-2985.

Netanya: Magas, 10 2965. Haffa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312. Krayot arae: Harman, 4 Simtat Modřín, Kryat Motzkin, 870-77703. Herzliya: Ckal Pharm, Belt Merkazim, 6 Maskti (cm. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m.

to midright. Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mail, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, pediatrics, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, ophthalmology); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics, obstetrics). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv: Medical Center (surgery).

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Capriati stumbles, Hingis overcomes lapse

MELBOURNE (AP) Jennifer Capriati's comehack stumbled yesterday with a tearful exit at the Australian Open, the same place where her life started skidding downhill four years ago.

No. 4 Martina Hingis, at 16 the same age Caprian was in her last visit Down Uoder, overcame a displey of temper on her way to winning her first-round match but gave an upbeat assessment: "I'm still young. I still have time to get higher and higher." Men's No. 1 Pete Sampras, the

1994 Australian Open champion, managed to come in out of the 32degree (90F) heat in just one hour, 40 minutes with a 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Romanian qualifier Dinu Pescariu.

No. 11 seed Jim Courier, the 1992 and 1993 winner, let a 5-2 lead slip away in the final set before prevailing 6-7(4-7), 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, 8-6 over Dutch player Sjeng Schalkeo in 4 hours.

No. 3 Goran Ivanisevic, soil seeking his first Grand Slam title. beat Australia's Ben Ellwood 6-2.

Capriati, in reaching the final in Sydney last week, looked as if she were well on her way to coming back from an arrest, a long layoff and drug and alcohol rehabilita-

But nervous and tentative, she committed 69 unforced errors and lost her serve five straight times in the first two sets on her way to a 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 loss to Jolene Watanabe, ranked 78th. Capriati, No. 24, saved two match points on Watanabe's serve in the final game before bowing out with a netted

She broke down in tears after the match and again soon afterward when asked whether she was aware of the hopes and support of

"Yeah, just being out there, I heard the cries," she said as tears welled in her eyes. With a forlorn look op her face, she rubbed the tears away with her hand, but couldn't go on.

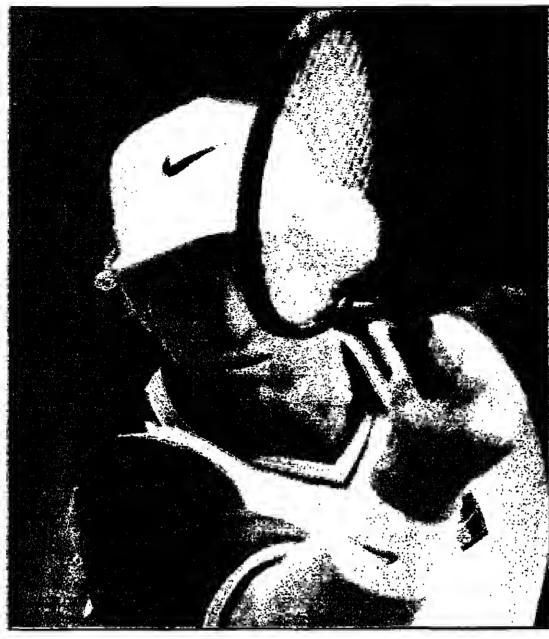
Watanabe sent a series of lobs and topspin shots up into the whipping winds and waited for Capriati to miss.

: "It was the perfect opportunity to beat her after her big wins last week," said Watanabe, "She may be a little tired physically and mentally. The conditions definitely favored me with the wind."

Of Capriati, she cautioned: Everyone loses. And if she lets it bother her, she's doomed."

Hingis, however, stated firmly that "you never want to lose to a lower-ranked player at a Grand Slam tournament

A fit of annoyance cost Hingis four straight games and a warning for throwing her racket in the second set before she recovered for a 6-1, 7-5 victory over German Barbara Rittner.



MARATHON WIN - It took Jim Courier four hours to overcome the Netherlands' Sjeng Schalken in a five-set, first-round win at the Australian Open yesterday.

"I lost concentration a little bit. I am very happy I found it," she said. The Swiss teen, her sights set on No. 1, coasted through the first set and broke Rittner to start the sec-

But thep as she chased Rittner around the court in the next game. the German stretched wide and flipped a backhand crosscourt passing shot by her. Hingis slipped into a series of errors, including two missed overheads, and found

herself trailing 4-1.
"She made just a great passing shot. I thought I had this point already. Somehow I lost a little bit of concentration," Hingis said.

Then it was Hingis' turn to win four straight games. Rittner broke her for 5-5 and, trailing 6-5, put her behind 0-40 before falling victim to her own overanxiousness and some tough shots hy Hingis. "If she keeps going like this, I think she could be No. 1 in a couple of years." Rittner said.

Rittner said Hingis plays as if she had the experience of a 24year-old, and the racket-throwing is the only point where you can really see she's still 16."

Hingis acknowledged with a grin that "it was my goal not to get a warning this year" but succeeded for only one tournament, in Sydney last week, when she beat Capriati in the final.

She has been advised not to show her emotions on court, but "I 2, and No. 15 Chanda Rubin think the people like me as 1 am out on the court," she added. "I can smile, I can throw my racket, but that's just my personality."

Another Swiss player, Patty Schnyder, ousted No. 6 seed Iva Majoli of Croatia 7-5, 6-1. No. 2 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario,

a 1994 and 1995 finalist in the Australian, squeezed out a 6-4, 6-

LONDON (Renter) - Kenny Dalglish was named Kevin Keegan's successor as manager of Premier League club Newcastle United yesterday. The official announcement came.

six days after Keegan quit the job which he had held for almost five It would be the second time in

his career that Dalglish, 45, has replaced Keegan in a key position. in 1977 he took his place in the Liverpool team following Keegan's transfer to Hamhurg.

Dalglish was working in as a scout for Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers when he was approached to take over at St James' Park. The only other serious cootender for the job was Bobby Rohsoo, who is currently coaching Barcelona.

Although rocked by Keegan's shock departure, Newcastle is still in with a very realistic chance of winning the title for the first time since 1927. They are currently fourth in the table, just five points

behind leaders Liverpool and with a match in hand.

Dalglish replaces Keegan ... again

If Dalglish does take over and succeeds in bringing the champi-onship to Newcastle he would become the first manager to win the English title with three differ-ent clubs following three successes with Liverpool in 1986, 1988 and 1990 and Blackburn in 1995.

Boro loses 3 points Middlesbrough, the last-place team in the Premier League, suffered a devastating blow yesterday when it was penalized three points for calling off a game at Blackburn last month.

A Football Association disciplinary panel also fined the cluh £50,000 for pulling out of the December 21 game at Ewood Park at the last minute.

Middlesbrough was also ordered to pay the cost of the hearing and could face a claim of compensa-tion from Blackburn. The game will have to be played at a later

The decision leaves Middles-

brough with 15 points from 22 matches, four points behind 19thplace Southampton

Middlesbrough manager Bryan Robson pulled out of the Blackburn game 24 hours before it was scheduled to be played. He said he could not field a team because 23 players were sidelined hy injuries, illness or suspension.

At the rime, Blackburn caretaker manager Tony Parkes scoffed at the decision, saying, "Are we playing Sunday league football now?"

The FA panel said it concluded that Middlesbrough "did not have just cause for unilaterally calling off the match'

Robson made no immediate comment after Tuesday's sanctions were announced. Middles-brough can appeal within 14 days of receiving written confirmation of the ruling.

"The situation, I'm sorry to say, is truly tragic," he said. "I think we'll be relegated. I'm practical-

Grobbelaar, Segers, Fashanu go on trial

WINCHESTER (AP) - Premier League goalkeepers. Bruce Grohbelaar and Hans Segers were handed huge sums of cash by a far eastern betting syndicate to make sure their teams lost games, a jury was

"In front of 50,000 fans and a TV audience of millions, a goalkeeper can't simply let the ball roll in between his legs," prosecutor David Calvert Smith said. "However, goalkeepers do make mistakes some-times and therefore it may be that the odd deliberate mistake may escape

Calvert Smith said Grobbelaar, the former Liverpool and Southampton goalkeeper, was able to buy two Mercedes cars with the money he received from a betting scheme organized by a far eastern syndicate.

Segers, the former Wimhledon goalkeeper, deposited two large sums of cash into a Swiss branch of an American bank during the 1993 and

1994 seasons, the prosecutor said. When Segers was interviewed by police, he said the money was the proceeds of other crimes he committed as a teenager and kept in a bank

"But these were paid in immediately after matches had been lost by

Wimbledon," Calvert Smith told the jury.

Grobbelaar, Zimbawe's international goalkeeper, and the Dutch-born Segers went on trial yesterday along with former Wimbledon striker John Fashanu and Malaysian businessman Heng Suan Lim at

Winchester Crown Court.

The four are accused of conspiracy to give or accept cash to rig the results of certain Premier League games between 1991 and 1994, in the biggest match-fixing scandal in English soccer in 32 years. The four have denied the charges.

In the opening session of the trial, Calvert Smith said goalkeepers were the ideal players to approach for rigging match results.

"If you are a betting man and wished to tip the odds in your favor, the

oalkeeper is the most obvious single player of the team to approx he said. "He is the most obvious person to have a real influence on the results of the game."

Fashanu played the role of middleman in the schemes and there was evidence of frequent phone calls involving Lim and Fashanu and each of the two goalkeepers, Calvert Smith said.

Calvert Smith said Fashanu also received large amounts of money which could not be explained by his other business dealings. Much of the money came from Indonesia, he said.

The prosecution alleged that Fashanu handed over £40,000 to Grobbelaar following a Liverpool-Newcastle match in 1993. Newcastle woo that game 3-0.

Colts' Irsay at 73

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) :-Robert Irsay, who in 1984 sneaked the NFL's Colts out of Baltimore in the middle of the night to Indianapolis, died yesterday, more than a year after a stroke. He was 73.

The Colts owner was vilified in Baltimore for moving the team, one of pro gridiron's most sto-

Irsay, who earned a reputation as a meddlesome, tight-fisted tyrant in Baltimore, claimed he was driven out of the city by a hostile news media. In March 1984, then-NFL

commissioner Pete Rozelle said Irsay was considering moving the Colts to Indianapolis, as well as Phoenix, Jacksonville or Memphis. Then on March 28, moving vans were sighted out-side the Colts training facility at

Owings Mills. The next day, the Maryland legislature voted to give Fallingere the power to take over the Colts through eminent domain, and the city sent Irsay a telegram offering \$40 million for the franchise. It was too late. The team.

already had left the previous

Heat edge **Bullets**

MIAMI (AP) — Even with Juwan Howard playing for the other side, the Miami Heat beat the Washington Bullets — barely. Alonzo Monrning scored 32 points Monday night and the Heat withstood a furious fourth-quarter rally by Washington to win 98-95.

Howard, booed throughout the game because he spurned the Heat last summer, scored 23 points and helped the Bullets rally from an 82-60 deficit with 9% minutes left. But they failed to catch Miami, with Chris Webber and Tracy Murray missing 3-point attempts in the final 10 seconds.

Tim Hardaway scored 28 points as the Heat snapped Washington's four-game winning streak and closed to within one-half game of Atlantic Division leader New York.

The game marked Howard's first appearance at Miami Arena since July 17, when he attended a news conference to announce his signing with the Heat. Less than three weeks later, the NBA voided the seven-year, \$101 million deal, and Howard re-signed with the Bullets.

Hawks 93, Cavaliers 79. Christian Lactmer scored 25

points as visiting Atlanta won its sixth straight Laettner, who had 26 in Atlanta's victory over San Antonio on Samrday, hit a higharcing 3-pointer to start an 11-2 run at the beginning of the fourth quarter that sent the Cavaliers to their fourth straight loss and fifth

Jazz 97, 76ers 96 (OT) overtime, but ended an eight-game

Hornacek each scored three points in overtime for the Jazz, who were just I-for-7 from the floor in OT.

Mark Davis set a career high with 24 points for the 76ers, who have now lost 19 of their last 20 and nine in a row

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SALES

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Costa, who ousted Australia's Patrick Rafter 7-5, 6-2, 7-5.

4 victory over Italy's Gloria

Last year's women's runner-up

No. 5 seed Anke Huber, struggled

to a 0-6, 6-2, 7-5 victory over Amy

No. 7 Lindsay Davenport beat

France's Nathalie Dechy 4-6, 6-

1, 6-1, No. 8 Irina Spirlea ousted

Japan's Naoko Kijimuta 6-2, 6-4.

No. 9 Karina Hahsudova beat

Croatia's Silvija Talaja 6-1, 6-2, No. 14 Mary Joe Fernandez beat

Laura Golarsa of Italy 6-2, 4-0, 0-

defeated Slovakia's Radka

Men's seeds who advanced also

included No. 8 Wayne Ferreira, a

6-3, 6-2, 6-2 winner over Spain's

Carlos Costa; No. 9 Marcelo Rios,

a 7-6 (7-4), 6-3, 6-3 winner over

Czech Petr Korda; No. 10 Albert

Zrubakova 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

Pizzichini

DANISH SPEAKERS WANTED (women only)! High salaryi Cali Malene el 03-575-8255. STEWARDESS FOR LUXURY yechi,

18-30, fit, English-speaking, Initial contract 3 months renewable. Tel. 050-585-766. SITUATIONS VACANT Jerusalem

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FULL TIME POSITION OFFERED In e religious institution in Tel. Aviv area. Must be billingual, computer Illerate, some knowledge of basic bookseping, car essential. Tel. 050-459-319. REQUIRED MOTHER TONGUE English typist, Hebrew an amendy. Please send CV to Belle POB 3449 Petah Tikveh,

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Dallas ends 10-year drought in **Montreal**

MONTREAL (AP) - Rookie Jamie Langenbrunner scored the go-ahead goal on a power play in the second period as the Dallas Stars got the franchise's first victory at Montreal in 10 years, 2-1

Monday might. Langenbrunner swept Benoit Hogue's cross-ice pass past goal-tender Jocelyn Thibault at the 16:06 mark, giving the Stars their first win at Mootreal since February 1987, when the team was based in Minnesota. The Stars were 0-8-2 in their previous 10 trips to Montreal.

Jere Lentinen also scored for Dallas, which improved the league's best road record to 14-6-1. Islanders 4, Rangers 2 Tommy Salo outplayed Mike

Richter in goal as the visiting Islanders snapped their sevengame winless streak. The Islanders jumped to a 3-0 lead on goals by Zigmund Palffy, Brent Hughes and Travis Green. then nearly reverted to their habit

of hlowing third-period leads. But after giving up the Rangers' second goal, by Luc Robitaille, Salo kept the Rangers from tying with a strong third period when the Islanders were outshot 13-11.

The Islanders were 0-6-1 in their previous seven games, and had lost leads in eight of 16 games when leading after the second period. The victory gave the Islanders a 2-1-1 record against the Rangers, a team they trailed by 19 points in the standings before Monday night's game.

Monday's results: Ottawa 4, Boston 3 Dallas 2, Montreal 1 N.Y. Islanders 4, N.Y. Rangers 2 Washington 6, Toronto 3 Tampa Bay 2, Chicago 6

ALT: IN-

Hengang

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DANCE

JAZZ

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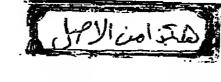
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in eight games. Utah made just one field goal in road losing streak.
John Stockton and John

Karl Malone had 28 points and nine rebounds to help the Jazz end a four-game losing streak

Monday's results:
Orlande 114, New Jersey 141
Utah 97, Philadelphia 96 (OT)
Miami 98, Washington 95
Atlanta 93, Cleveland 79
Phoenix 105, Dallas 98 Charlotte 102, Denver 100 (QT)



Family Album

Part 1 (19:00) News

Wonderful World

Bat Yam
-New York

NYPD

(22:35)

8

TIME

In Country

Special report on Ransom (21:40) New Eden-tuturstic

action.

Mob Boss (23:30)

18:00 Bodies in

Raily - day 11 roundup

17:00 To be

(19:55)

3

Broadcast

Perla Negra

Meirose Place (20:50)

Savannah (21:40)

Local

4 6

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

English pranist Benjamin Frith, who was the win-

ner of the 1989 Artur Rubinstein International Piano

Master Competition, performs Brahms's Piano

Onartet with members of the Israel Chamber

Orchestra, tonight (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum.

The program also includes the same composer's

First String Sextet and the Third Sonata for Violin

and Piano, with Frith and Sidney Harth.

SEMINAR

HELEN KAYE

The first of the six Emil Habibi memorial month-

ly seminars gets underway with a panel discussion

on place and identity as expressed in poetry in Israel.

Sociologist and poet Zali Gurevitch is in the chair.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Tamara Mielnik's 10-year-old Jerusalem Dance

Theater celebrates with a gala of five works by five

choreographers, two of them premieres - Beloved

by Bill Louther, and The Creation of the World by

JAZZ

- HELEN KAYE

Chicago jazzman Johnny Frigo only started play-

likes of Herb Ellis and Lou Carter. His warm-up act at 11:35.

Tonight at the Jerusalem Khan at 8:30. (Hebrew)

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CRITICS' CHOICE

TWO I STAIL The Control of the Real of the Colts

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17 "

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You have one more chance to hear two exciting violinists in action tonight. If you are in the north, you can enjoy Chantal Juillet pleying Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra under Yuval Zaliouk, who also The Parket Sec leads the orchestra in the overture to Mozart's Le nozze di Figuro and Beethoven's Seventh Symphony at the Haifa Auditorium (8:30). At the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, Hagai Shaham pleys the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the Israel Symphony Orchestra Rishon Lezion, under the baton of Alexander Rahbari, who also leads the orchestra in two works by Tchaikovsky: the First Symphony and the Fourth Suite (8:30).

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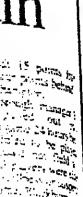
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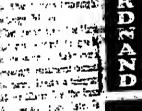
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Yaakov Lipschitz. The other dances are Mielnik's And He Made Me Laugh, jazzy Kongo Tango Palace by Tali Bin, and Valery Panov's neo-classic War and Peace. Tonight at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv at 8:30. ing violin in the '80s, and, in only three years, he got so good at it that Johnny Carson had him on the ing bass for Tommy Dorsey, and recorded with the and musician and songwriter Kobi Oz. Channel 2,



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promise to the second the market of the property and the to the at industrial. Windows 1445

Manager All and Manager All an

B

ACROSS

5 To change width; let's cut wood (3) 9 Striker takes position for decisive moment of game

Impolite daughter overcome by regret (4)

11 Noisy factory hides

12 One pulled back towards information (8)

15 Back chimney coated in sound paint (8)

18 Qnick way to get an army hairstyle? (5,3)

21 Ona that's floored by

19 Penalty for striking (4)

reprimand (6)

the centre (6) 13 Result of ass picking a

horse? (4)

1 Tempting vegetable? (6)

(5,5)

10 Impolite









Ilan Dar is GSS head Avraham Shalom in

will be singer Nissim Yemini, in 6 salute to the late Nat King Cole. The is the fourth program in the

Chicago jazz series. Tonight at the Israel Museum at

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

The drama series Bus No. 300 (Channel 1, 9:15

p.m.), based on one of the country's biggest scan-

dals, starts tonight. A bus from Tel Aviv to Ashkelon was hijacked by four terrorists. Two were killed during the rescue, and the other two were taken alive and later killed by GSS agents.

Synergy is a term taken from the field of organi-

zation theory. Yaron London, by far Israeli TV's

most cultured and intelligent interviewer, hosts a

new program by the same name. The premise is

that a combined effort by several people gives an

output greater than the sum of its parts. This is a

low-key interview show with two unique guests,

where we will get an insight into their world and

ideas and things they have in common. In tonight's

show, the guests will be porboiler author Ram Oren

Bus No. 300.'

8:30 p.m.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

23 Priest, for example, fell for glamour (8)
25 When tycannicides finally stabbed Caesar (4) 26 Deliriously happy, Carol

made up (10)
27 Criminal is off to finish the monarch (8) 28 Little house a comfy place,

it'e true (6) DOWN

2 A mask, we hear, can be useful (5)

3 Storyteller collapsed near court (9) 4 Recommend favourite for

cape (8) 5 Rapid journey referee makes round field? (7-4,4)

SOLUTIONS

see through (5)

6 Fascinate with conspiracy

8 Cover for you while you're

14 Previously unknown foe

16 Security number for

17 Assorted clans dot this

20 Height above ground of

22 Something to stick over

24 Initially good girl one can

concealed catch (6,3)

drawing cash has a

7 Disconcerted cast (5)

had run off (7-2)

country (8)

fireplace (6)

hand (5)

out? (9)



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Screw, 4 Tinny, 19 Lemient, 11 Agree, 12 Deltz, 13 Ingxact, 15 Nude, 17 Quits, 19 Essay, 22 Eddy, 25 Sanaide, 27 Macsw, 29 Bysde, 30 Enthuse, 31 Jetty, 32 Ember. Jetty, 32 Ember. DOWN: 2 Cannl, 3 Elegant, 5 Irata, 6 Kirvana, 7 Elude, 9 Staid, 9 Petty, 14 Need, 16 Used, 18 Unaware, 30 Symptom, 21 Askew, 23 Deter, 24 Owner, 26 Inert, 28 Crude.



ACROSS 5 Reveal as true (5) 8 Definite (8) 9 Worship (5) 10 Exaggerated (8) 11 Thick wire (5)

14 Beverage (3) . 16 Nepalese soldier 17 Frint (8) . 18 W Indian state (3) 20 Shovel (5) 24 Loosing blood (8) 25 Start (5) 26 Amusing account

7 Study of viruses (8) 12 Writ (8) 13 Shding (8) 14 Label (3) 15 Ismaili ruler (3) 19 Greasing (6) 21 Use an epee (5) 22 Intolerant believer (5) 23 Leered (5)

WHAT'S ON

youth 18:00 Senora

on the novel by

20:00 News

22:35 NYPD

World

Daniello Steele -

20:30 Wonderful

EXCHANNEL 1

6:31 News in Arabic 8-45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning

EDUCATIONAL

8:00 Evolutionary 8:30 On Second Thought 9:00 Social Sciences 9:30 English 9:45 Programs for the very young 10:15 100 Years of 11:15 Geography 11:40 Judalsm 12:05 Music

12:35 Science and Technology 13:00 in the Heat of the Night 14:00 Surprise Train 14:20 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:35 Babar the Elephant 15:00 Animals

E CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tinytown Tales 15:50 Booly 16:00 Who's Afraid of the Dark? 16:25 Zap to 3 -

18:25 Zap to 3 –
Joint broadcast with
Radio 3
18:55 Zap to Basel
18:59 A New Evening
17:34 Zappy Culture
– live program on culture for youth
18:15 News in
English English

ARABIC PROGRAMS 18:30 Family Matters 19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 News flash
19:31 Campus Cops
20:00 News 20:00 News
20:45 Conference
Call - talk show with
Nisstri Mishal
21:15 Bus 300 - original drama based on
the events of the Bus
200 officer which the events of the Bus 300 affair which scandalized Israel in the mid-Eighties by exposing the darker sides of the security and political establishments. A bus from Tel Aviv to Ashkelon was hijacked by four terrorists. Two were killed during the rescue, and lhe other two were taken alive and later killed by GSS agents. Part 1.

GSS agents. Part 1. 22:10 No Man's Land - media magazine 23:00 Keeping Up 23:30 News 00:00 Verse of the

異 CHANNEL 2 7:00 Flintstones 7:30 The Five Mrs.

Buchanans 8:00 Dame Edna's Neighbourhood 8:35 Documentary about life during the Gulf war 9:25 Hoflywood

9:25 Hosywood
Wives
10:15 Two for the
Road (1967) — e couple whose marriage
is on the rocks
become reconciled
through memories of
the cars they drove
on briliday together. the cars they drove on holiday together. With Audrey Hepbum and Albert Finney. Directed by Stanley Donen. (112 mins.) 12:30 Health Magazine 13:00 Open Cards 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tie Tac – quiz show

show 15:00 Top Cat 16:30 Dave's World 16:00 The Bold and the

17:00 News maga-zine with Rafi Reshel 17:30 SporTV - lor 20:00 A New Evening, with Russian subtitles 19:00 Family Album mini-series based 20:30 Basic Arabic 22:00 Zombit 22:00 Bat Yarn-New North Africa in the 23:35 Synergy -Yaron London inter-views Ram Oren and Kobi Oz

00:00 News 00:05 Synergy - continued 90:35 The Great Dictator [1940] — Charlie Chaples sapetick talkie mingles sapetick and satire as he plays both a Jewish barber and a megalomaniac dictator. (128 mins.) 2:45 On the Edge of the Shelf

JORDAN TV 13:30 Cartoon 14:30 Escape from Jupiter - science fic-15:00 Feature film 16:00 Earth

19:50 Program for Remadan 17:30 Muppet Show 18:00 French pro-19:30 News headlines 19:35 Bakersheld PD 20:00 Oriental Rugs 20:30 Challenges 21:10 NBA Basketball 22:00 News in

23:00 Cobra 11:30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (1990) (rpt) 23:50 Miniseries: The River Kings MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 Quantum Shopping 8:00 TV Shop 14:30 The 700 Club 15:00 Sandokan 15:25 Death Rage 15:25 Death hage (1976) – an American hit man is tricked into killing a Mafia boss in Naples, With Yul Brynner, (90 mins.) 16:55 Family Challenge 17:40 Family Matters 18:05 Saved by the Bell 19:30 Larry King

19:30 World News Tonight 20:00 Coach 20:25 Dava's World 20:50 Newhart 21:15 Forbidden Memories - feature

23:00 CNN 00:00 TV Shop 2:00 Quantum Shopping 3:00 TV Shop ■ ITV 3 (33)

CABLE

19:00 Cartoons 19:30 Yashi and Bahaya 17:15 Discussion in 18:00 Amores 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Documentary in

20:00 News 20:45 Are You Being Served? 21:15 Baldi Olier (rpt) 22:30 Freddy Starr 22:55 The Crazy Horse Nightclub (rpt) ■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 All Together Now 16:00 100 Years of Zionism 16:40 Pillar of Fire 17:35 Phenomenal World 19:00 Welcome to

France 19:30 Family Relations 19:00 Evolutionary Trends 19:30 Vis à Vis 21:00 Star Trek – The Next Generation 21:45 Pop Songs 22:30 Montreal Jazz Festival: Joe Lovano 23:30 The Jews 01 era of colonialism

19:30

20:00

20:30

21:00

21:30

22:00

22:30

23:00

King 14:30 Nils

Modern Life

20:25 Married with

Campus

CANTAREROS

Call with

Bus 300 -

original drama Par

1. (21:15)

No Man's Land

Keeping Up Appearance

13:35 Blinky Bill 14:05 Simba the Lion

(22:10)

Mishal (20:45)

Cops (19:31)

E FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Sisters (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Days of Our Lives (rpt) 11:20 Perla Negra (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Dallas (rpt) 13:30 Dweebs 14:10 Rosie O'Neill

15:00 Sisters 15:50 Days of Our Lives 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Dallas 19:00 One Life to

Live 18:45 Young and Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perla Negra 20:50 Metrose Place 21:40 Savannah 22:30 Silk Stalkings 22:30 Silk Standungs 23:20 Night Stand with Dick Dietrick 23:45 Law and Order 00:30 ENG Newsroom 1:20 North of 60

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

13:05 Decameron Nights (1953) (rpt) 14:35 Who's Line is That, Anyway? 15:05 Svengali (1983) (rpt) 19:35 New in the Cinema. 18:50 Josh and S.A.M. (1993) (rpt) 18:30 Find the Lady

(1976) - A goofy cop tries to sava e society lady from an incom-petent kidnapper, With John Candy and Mickey Rooney, (78 mins.) 19:55 In Country (1989) (rpt) 21:40 Special report

on Ransom with Mel Gibson 22:00 New Eden (1994) - futuristic action. With Stephen Baldwin and Lisa Bonet 23:30 Mob Boss

(1990) - comedy. A dying don calls on his inept son to take over the family business. (92 mins.) 1:05 Condition Critical (1992) thriller (97 mins.) 2:35 Head Above Water (Norwegian,

CHILDREN (6) 9:30 Cartoons 9:00 Coure Marco 9:30 The Center of

Imagination 12:00 Animal Cannibals (rpt) 13:00 Voltaire 1694-1779, part 4 (rpt) 14:00 Open Things (rpt)
9:45 Pink Panther
Show
10:05 The Center of University (rpt) 18:00 Animal Cannibals (rpt) 17:00 Voltaire (rpt) Things 10:20 The 19:00 Open University (rpt) 20:00 United States Adventures of Pete and Pete 10:45 The Center of Television, part 3 -Television, part 3 –
TV shopping from appliances to houses to erotic items 20:55 World of Geo:
Behind the Ice Wall — an isolated Tibetan village is closed off by ice for nine growths of the year Things 11:05 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper 11:30 Little University 12:00 Shesh-Tus 12:30 Hugo 13:00 Surprise

Healing, part 3 – Who Gets Sick 22:55 United States elevision (mt) 23:55 Open University

Holgersson 15:00 The Center of Things 15:15 Pink Panther **SUPER** Show 15:50 Mirror, Mirror CHANNEL 16:15 The Center of 6:00 Selina Scott 7:00 The Ticket 7:30 NBC Morning Things 16:35 Welcome

Freshmen 17:05 Little University News 8:00 Today 10:00 Wall Street 17:30 Shesh-Tus 19:00 Hugo Morning Reports 11:00 European Money 18:30 Looney Toons 18:40 Tasmania 19:00 Little Flying 15:30 Wall Street Morning Reports 17:00 MSNBC - The Bears 19:30 Ital and Friends - children's alk show 18:00 National 20:10 Rocko's Geographic 19:00 Wine Express 19:30 The Ticket 20:00 The Selina

Children 20:50 Roseanne Scott Show 21:00 Dateline 22:00 Golf; Gator Toyota Trophy 23:00 The Tonight 21:15 Lois and Clark SECOND SHOWING (6)

Show with Jay Leno 00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien 1:00 Later with Greg 22:00 Escape to Victory (1981) -WWil adventure movie, A soccar Kinnear
1:30 NBC News
2:00 The Tonight
Show with Jay Leno
3:00 MSNBC game between POWs and their captors ands with a dartors ands with a dar-ing escape, Wath Sylvester Stallone, Michael Caine, Max von Sydow and Pele. Directed by John Huston (111 mins.) 23:55 The Navigator (1989) — e visionary tilm from New Zealand examines the 20th century Internight STAR PLUS

9:00 Ciao Italia 6:30 El TV 7:00 Kate and Allie 7:30 Oprah Winfrey 8:30 Chicago Hope the 20th century 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 The Bold and the through 14th-century eyes. A group of adventurers from a mining villaga travel through the center of 11:00 The Reporter 11:30 Buniv 12:00 Home and

the earth and surface in modem-day New Zealand. (87 mins.) DISCOVERY (8) 14:30 Clao Italia 15:00 The Road 6:00 Open University
- First Year of Life;
Sociological

Show 15:30 News in Hindi 16:00 Smell Wonder 6:30 The Bold and the 17:00 Hindi program 7:30 Star News 18:00 'Allo 'Allo 18:30 Baywatch 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara

21:00 Beverly Hills 90210 22:00 Picket Fences 23:00 Quincy 00:00 Oprah Wintrey 1:00 Barnaby Jones 2:00 Home and Away 2:30 The Sullivans E CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion

Away 12:30 Lost in Space 13:00 Black Beauty 14:00 Kate and Allie

five 14:00 International Molorsports News 15:00 Watersports

Soccer 20:30 Watersports 20:30 Watersports World 21:30 Thai Kickboxing 22:30 Spanish League Soccer 23:00 TTU Triabilon,

itzi and Friends United States Television Modern Life (20:10)part 3 Married With Children (20:25) World of (20:50) Geo: (20:55) Lots and Escape to Victory part 3 (rpt) (22:55) World Forum (rpt)

10:05 Horizon (rpt) 11:30 Film '97 (rpt) 19:30 Dakar 1997 15:30 Asia-Pacific announced 18:30 National League Newshour 11:30 The Clothes Volleybali 19:30 Water scoot-Show (rpl) 17:05 State of the ers, Eilat 20:00 NBA basketball World Forum (rpt) 19:30 Tomorrow's - New York vs. Houston Rockets 21:30 Champions' League Soccer 22:00 Dakar 1997

Rally - day 12 22:30 Boxing

■ EUROSPORT 9:30 Dakar 1997 Rally (rpt) 10:00 Alpine Skiing.: World Cup. Switzerland (rpt) 11:00 Combined Nordic Skiing; World Cup, Italy – live 12:30 Tennis: Australian

Italian Grand Prix 22:30 Dakar 1997 Rally - day 12 roundup 23:00 Tennis: Australian Open – day 3 roundun 00:00 Figure Skating,

Magazine 2:00 Dakar 1997 Rally, day 12 (rpt) E PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Tennis: Australian Open 6:00 ITU Triathlon 9:00 Asian Soccer

Show 10:00 Tennis.... Australian Open -

Tour of South Africa review 19:30 Indian League

World Cup 00:00 Figure Skating: Canadian Professional Open (rpt) 2:00 Tennis: Australian Open —

14:15 Panorama (rpt) 15:15 World World (rpt) 19:30 Holiday (rpt) 22:05 Pole to Pole 00:00 World

RADIO

WE VOICE OF MUSIC 6:06 Morning Concert 9:05 Hugo Wolf: Quartet in D minor for strings; Walton: Violin concerto; Schumann: Sumnhony no 3 Symphony no 3
"Rhenish"; Brahms;
Sonata no 2 in F for
cello and piano op Open 21:30 Body Building: 99; Elgar: Sea Pictures song cycle 12:00 Light Classic

Michigan 1:00 Molorsports

World 19:00 Winter Sports 18:30 Tennis: Australian Open – day 3 roundup 17:30 Cricket: Indian

BBC WORLD News on the hour 6:05 State of the

Week - Astor Piazzola 14:06 Keys 16:00 Nietzsche: Song cycle (Fischer-Dieskau); Arthur De Graf: Plano concerto no 118:00 Debussy: 2 Arabesques Thomas Dunhilt:

- works for guitar by Giuliani, Paganini,

Rodrigo, Castelnuovo-Tedesco

13:00 Artist of the

Fantasy Suite for ... ctadget and pigno on 91: Linley. Thousands of Thoughts on Love. elegy; Fauré: Fantas for flute and piano; Schumann Levy, piano); Arensky: Piano trio no 1 in D minor op 32 ; Dvoralc Romanca in F mino for violin and orch (J.-P. Tortelier/Ulster)

P. Tortelier/Ulster) 20:05 Live broadcast from Henry Crown Auditorium Jerusalem. Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba, cond. Mendi Rodan. Mozart: Violin concerto no 4. Vaughan Williams: The Lark Ascending: Beethoven:

Symphony no 7 23:00 Golden Generation - Pro Arte Quartet. Debussy: Quartet In G minor; Ravel: Quartet in F

MOVIES

months of the year

JERUSALEM
CRIEMATHEOUE Jaws 5 * Crimes and
Misdemeanors 7:15 * Saint Clara 9:30 * kt Rains On Our Love 9:30 G.G. Gif.
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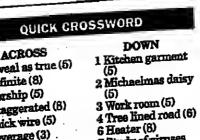
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9:45 ★ Emma 5, 7:30, 9:45
Phone reservations: Tel Aviv 5252244
Phone reservations: Haifa 726878
All times are our unless otherwise indicat-All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicat-

General Assistance and Where To Go listings now appear on Page 9.



Olmert trial begins

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert went on trial yesterday, accused of campaign financing fraud in the 1988 election, when he was Likud

"Althnugh I am not accused of doing anything for myself or acting to benefit personally, the accusations are incorrect and I believe this too will be proven," Olmert told reporters at Tel Aviv District Court. The charges also relate to the local council elections in

Olmert insisted he had no part in an alleged fictitious public relations firm set up to receive and disguise corporate dinations barred by law. The charge sheet said Olmert "intentionally misled the State Comptroller" by "hiding the fact that the Likud received, against the provisinns of the Campaign Funding Law, contributions from Israeli corporations."

According to the indictment, the corporations received receipts indicating they had paid for "advertising," thereby enabling them to claim the campaign donations as business expenses, in violation of tax laws.

The indictment charged that in its report to the State Comptroller after the elections in 1988, the Likud did not include the contributions from the corporations in the total for campaign contribu-

"We are interested in as speedy and short a trial as possible. There is no point in stretching anything out," Olmert said. In a written statement distributed to the press, Olmert said: "At all the relevant dates mentioned in the indictment, Olmert did not know anything about the raising of contributions from the corporations, and, therefore, did not know anything about the way they were raised, recorded or about the receipts issued, nor



Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert stands outside the Tel Aviv District Court where his trial on campaign fraud began yesterday.

anything regarding what was done

with these donations." In an effort to shorten the trial, Olmert and his lawyers did not contest the claims by the prosecution that the Likud actively sought contributions from the corporations. Olmert has hired a public relations firm to represent him during the trial and is paying for it out of

spokesman away from his regular work, the public relations compa-

A court spokesman said the trial would resume on February

Hanegbi asks PM to publish protocol of Bar-On meeting

By EVELYN GORDON

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi bas asked Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's permission to publish the protocol of last Friday's cabinet meeting on the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney-general, to finally lay to rest once and for all arguments over what was or was not said at the meeting, he told the Knesset State Control Committee yester-

Hanegbi also told the committee he had reviewed his entire list of candidates with Supreme Court Justice Aharon Barak, who expressed an opinion on each of them, including Bar-On. However, he refused to tell the committee what Barak's opinions were, just as he avoided telling the cabinet on Friday.

Several months ago, at the beginning of our work together, we agreed that our conversations would remain private," Haneghi explained when asked why he did not relay Barak's opinions to the cabinet. He added that he was under no formal obligation to consult Barak at all, but had felt it would only be polite to inform him before he heard it on the

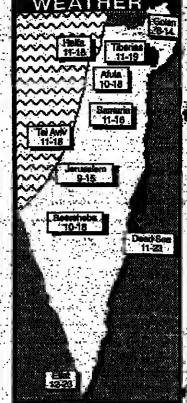
This answer satisfied neither coalition oor opposition MKs,

"Had the president of the Supreme Court opposed the appointment, or responded with silence (which is also a response), one would have supposed you would have taken the trouble to inform the cabinet of this, in the framework of your presentation of the range of considerations relatan important matter," wrote Communications Minister Limor Livnat in an angry letter to Hanegbi on Monday.

Committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) said it was obvious that Barak bad opposed Bar-On's appointment, since if he had approved it, Hanegbi would have told the cabinet. However, he said, Hanegbi's failure to tell the cabinet explicitly of Barak's opposition was very grave, since even if the ministers decided to ignore Barak's opinion, they still had a right to know what it was.

Hanegbi also told the committee that the cabinet misunderstood. him when he said outgoing attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair welcomed" the appointment Ben-Yair's statement was merely. an expression of pleasure that someone had finally been found to replace him, Hanegbi said it did not relate to the specific choice of Bar-On at all.

The committee discussion was prompted by a motion for the agenda from Labor MKs Ephraim Sneh, Ra'anan Cohen and Moshe Shahal. The three were concerned by the question of what Hanegbi had really said regarding Barak's opinion of the appointment, the hapless way the government handled the appointment, and the choice of someone with clear political affiliations as attorney-general. This latter point infuriated Hanegbi, who said he refused to accept that political affiliation should automatically bar someone from high office. Dozens of judges have had known political associations,



Inflation for

1996 - 10.6

accord: B

By CAVID MAKE

AROUND THE WORLD



Winning numbers and cards

8, 14, 19, 33, and 44. The additional number was 36.

The winning cards in yesterday daily there draw were the nine of spades, 10 of hearts, 10 of dia-

Eizenstat calls on Jewish leaders to cooperate with Swiss authorities

Switzerland is moving properly to review its financial relationship Germany, Nazi Undersecretary of Commerce Stuart Eizenstat said Monday, and be called on Jewish community leaders to cooperate with Swiss

"I think it is important to underne awiss government is moving in a very appropriate way to try to look at a very painful period," he told B'nai B'rith.

Eizenstat's opinion was not sbared by US Senator Al D'Amato, who on Monday repeated bis assertion that the Swiss are using "delaying tactics" in con-fronting their relations with the

But D'Amato also warned against public threats to the

"I think we must be very careful in the manner in which we go forward," he told the Orthodox Union in New York. "I do not think that we should be in a posiBy MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

tion where we are calling for specific action and sanctions at this time. I think that would be counter-productive."

Their comments were a deft challenge to the World Jewish Congress which suggested last week that it would call for a boycott of the Swiss banks unless the Bern government chastised Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, the economics minister, who labeled calls for a Swiss Holocaust compensation fund "blackmail."

"If it does not come to a formal denial. Jewish restitution organizations ...will very well take this into consideration when they discuss in early February officially calling for a boycott of Swiss hanks," the WJC executive director, Elan Steinberg, told the Swiss newspaper Tages-Anzeiger. It was the second time within 12 months years.

that the WJC raised the prospect of a hoycott.

Foreign Minister David Levy has also warned against a boycott. Eizenstat, who has served for two years as the Clinton administration's point man on property restitution, is heading a government panel of historians that is retrieving and distributing Nazi gold and other assets after the war. It is very important for my mission that we continue to work with the Swiss government and other governments as they go through their review processes," he told

B'nai B'rith. The Swiss government has established an international commission of historians, including Saul Friedlander, for an inquiry into the war-time relations between Switzerland and Nazi Germany. The commission's work, which is to begin this month, is expected to take several

Suspicious Swiss guard gives Jews bank documents

ZURICH (Renter) - A suspicious security guard at Switzerland's biggest bank stole old documents bound for the shredder and gave them to Swiss Jews in the belief they could help the search for Holocaust funds, the bank said yesterday.

Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) acknowledged the plan to shred the wartime-era documents was a clear violation of the government's ban on destroying any material that could be important in the search for dormant Jewish accounts. But it denied the documents were related in any way to dormant accounts. Jewish groups have alleged Swiss banks are still hoarding billions of dollars in Nazi victims' wealth.

"UBS strongly regrets the incident," it said in a statement, noting the employee had also violated the bank's own hlanket ban on destroying any documents. A UBS spokesman said the documents were purely historical in nature and of no relevance to the search said, adding: "In principle the documents and the Holocaust debate have nothing to do with each other." Zurich prosecutors are investigating the matter.

The documents relate to the Eidgenoessische Bank, a bank that UBS acquired in the 1940s. A UBS employee had been searching through the bank's files and released some of the documents which he considered unimportant for shredding. They included minutes of meetings, annual reports and other such documents, the spokeswoman said.

The security guard, however, discovered and removed these documents from UBS last week and banded them over to Zurich's Jewish community, which then contacted Zurich pros-

UBS said it was cooperating with prosecutors, but its own investigation showed the employee had no intention of destroying documents that could be of use in the inquiry into Swiss relations with Nazi Germany during World War II.

Polish prime minister expresses support for Jewish claims from Swiss

By BATSHEVA TSUR and Itim

Prime Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz expressed support yesterday for world Jewish claims for compen-sation for Holocaust-era assets in Swiss banks.

Cimoszewicz was speaking yesterday evening at a press conference with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Jews who deposited funds in Swiss banks were from Poland. and Cimoszewicz said this money should be returned to their heirs.

He said that Poland was one of the first countries which deemed the post-war financial arrangements "illegal and immoral," including that between Poland and

Switzerland. Before the press conference, the two prime ministers signed agreements for cooperation, one in telecommunications and the other

their discossions, Cimoszewicz asked that the two countries cancel their requirements for entry visas. However, Netanyahu explained that Israel. was trying to reduce the number of illegal foreign workers in the country, and some of those workers are Polish citizens.

Yesterday evening, the Polish" prime minister met with represen-



Polish PM Cimoszewicz (Ariel Jerozol

Restitution Organization and the for communal properties seized

during the Holocaust The Siem, Poland's parliament is currently discussing compensate that all the same and tion for the communal Jewish have talks at property in nine Polish cities and take in May lies. towns where Icws still live today a Morowa live tatives on compensation for Much has tiate with world Jewish represen-

tatives of the World Jewish Gaza World Federation of Polish Jewry Metern G Oslo 2 narry ... Frond Helman Jewish communal properties in the of assume hundreds of other locations.

